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FRONT PAGE should be addressed to
the Advertisement Manager.

"ARISTOCRAT'S" FIRST

CENTURY.

The attainment of "The Aristocrat" to
the dignity of centennial honours last
Friday night brought to the St. James's
an audience warmly enthusiastic over Mr.
Louis N. Parker's play and the players.
In these democratic days it is a matter
for congratulation that a company so
clearly marked with the recognised phys-
ical signs of your real, unmistakable aris-
tocrat could be gathered together under one
theatre roof. This is the case with the
whole "patrician" portion of the cast,
beginning with Sir George Alexander, then
whom nobody can wear the flowered bro-
cades and silk stockings with more distinc-
tion; and Miss Genevieve Ward, always
your "great lady" to the life. Sir
George's Louis of Olonzac, besides his
looks, has all the grace, the dignity, and
the strength that belong to the character.
The third act, especially, may be put
among the best things he has given us.
Miss Ward's Duchess of Anteville, splen-
did in spirit, keen of wit, and tragically
pitiful in that brief moment of weakness
when the summons comes to "mount the
red staircase," is more than ever a most
admirable performance. There were well-
deserved plaudits for everybody, and the
curtain had to run up and down a
number of times at the finish while the
company filed across the stage in gratified
procession. First came bonny Miss Mary
Glynne, sweetest of sweethearts (and
wives) as Louise, with Mr. Dennis Neilson-
Terry, most gallant and romantic of
heroes. Then the other picturesque pair
of lovers, played by Mr. Edward Comber-
more and Miss Joyce Carey, Count Josselin
and Jacqueline, his wife; Mr. William
Lugg, a gracious figure as the saintly
Bishop; and Mr. Lennox Pawle as the
garlic-scorning, plump yet elegant Marquis
de Beassac; Mr. Charles Glenney in his
full glory as the bloodthirsty, befeathered
Gaspard; and Mr. William Stack as bluff
soldier-General Duros; Miss Miriam Lewes,
splendid as always as his sweetheart, the
faithful Toinon; and Miss Helen Rous,
full of mellow dignity as Dame Ursula.
Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds as the deligh-
tful Urbain; Mr. Henry Oscar as the
sinister villain, Renaud; Mr. E. Rayson-
Consens, Mr. W. R. Staveley, and Mr.
Hector Abbas, who all play small parts
with distinction; and smallest, yet not
least, dear little Sunday Wilson and
Phyllis Neal as the charming representa-
tives of the third generation of the houses
of Olonzac and Bonasac. With such a
cast "The Aristocrat" looks like remain-
ing "in" for a second century.

'CHU CHIN CHOW' REVISITED.

Mr. Oscar Asche is advancing his Eastern
reputation almost as rapidly as General
Maude. The last time we revisited the gor-
geous pagant of life and colour at His
Majesty's we were brought back to the
obsession of war by the placarded news of
"Bombs on Baghdad." The British Tommy
is now far beyond that Mecca of delight,
and Mr. Oscar Asche, moving as rapidly
without leaving Baghdad, introduced some
new things into his delightful Eastern re-
vue on Friday evening last, when a
crowded audience, which included the Lord
Mayor, gathered for the dual purpose of
celebrating an American night and of en-
joying the good aesthetic feast provided.
The more recently introduced additions
include a performance of the mystifying
basket trick by some Eastern conjurers in
the Mean Street scene, which is now, more
than ever, a wonderful, and probably very
true, panorama of Eastern life and move-
ment. The potter at his wheel, who
fashions come very graceful vases, is a
clever touch of realism in the same scene.
There is a new song for Miss Aileen
D'Orme, entitled "Siesta Time," and her
serenade to Ali has now been omitted.
"Siesta Time," if not up to the standard
of the rest of the music, is quite a
pleasing song, and won for Miss D'Orme
a well-deserved round of applause.
The original numbers still remain the
best, the charming "Kissing Time," the
exquisite love song in the first act, and the
haunting "Cobbler's Song" in the last
are the prime favourites. There is no
alteration in the cast, except that on the
night we revisited the play Miss Marjorie
Essex, looking and acting extraordinarily
like her sister, played Miss Violet Essex's
part very charmingly. Judging from the
size and enthusiasm of the audiences, there
would appear to be no reason why "Chu
Chin Chow" should not run indefinitely,
if the present cast can stand it. Certainly
at present no lack of freshness appears,
and Mr. Oscar Asche, Miss Lily Brynton,
Mr. Courtice Pounds—most lovable of vaga-
bonds—Mr. Frank Bryant, so splendidly
impetuous as the young lover, Miss Sydney
Fairbrother, and the rest of the company,
including the very capable chorists, all con-
tribute finely and individually to the
general success of the performance.A grand charity matinee, in aid of the
District Hospital, was given at the Em-
pire, West Bromwich, on Saturday, when
Mr. W. B. Threlkeld's company appeared
in Sidney Grundy's play, "A Village
Priest." The matinee proved to be a huge
success.The "Shakespeare League Journal" for
April contains an article on "The League's
Objects," by the Rev. Stewart D. Headlam,
the president. According to the annual
report the number of members in January
last was 461, and there are six societies
affiliated. Progress is being made with
the tribute which is to be presented to Sir
P. R. Benson.

MISS MARY ANDERSON IN

PYGMALION AND GALATEA.

Curiosity will draw many people to the
Coliseum during this and next week
to see Mary Anderson, whose name,
ever since the actress left the stage a
quarter of a century ago, has remained in
the land a synonym for a perfect type
of classical feminine beauty. Mary An-
derson in W. S. Gilbert's "Pygmalion and
Galatea"! What memories it must evoke
to those who knew the London theatres
of her day! I remember how my imagina-
tion was stimulated by the glowing ac-
counts of the country cousins who visited
London in the late eighties just to see her,
and returned vowing that she was the most
beautiful creature they had ever beheld
even in pictures, and brought with them
photographs of a lovely woman, coiffured
a la Grecque, with eyes downcast, standing
on a pedestal or in some posture of ex-
ceeding grace, exquisite arms outstretched,

[Photo Malcolm Arbuthnot.]

MISS MARY ANDERSON.

perfect head upraised, showing the throat
of a sculptor's dream, the shoulders of a
poet's golden fancy. They raved, these
country visitors, of her deep, soft voice,
and of her wonderful womanly charm.
It is the realisation of this vision that we
are all rushing to the Coliseum to see now,
and, wonder of wonders! we are not dis-
appointed. Does it matter that the play
seems faded, artificial? Not a bit, for
the years have been kind to Mary An-
derson, they have left her beauty of con-
tour, majesty of demeanour, and to the end
of her life she will retain the gentle, gra-
cious womanliness that radiates from her.
Charity has drawn her back to the stage
for a while; she is devoting the proceeds
of this engagement to the funds of the
Officers' Hospital, Broadway, Worcester-
shire, and other charities. Criticism
would be out of place. The audience on
Monday afternoon greeted her with un-
bounded enthusiasm. So far as the play
was concerned, the second act of Gilbert's
fantastic comedy won most applause, for
it has most life in it, the dallying of
Olympus, played admirably by Mr. Lyall
Swete with every scrap of humour he could
extract from the part, with the "Statue
come to life," the passionate denunciation
of Cynisca (Lady Tree) ending with the
scornful "Be thou wife and I the
senseless stone," the bewildered surprise
of Galatea, all revived the interest that
linguished a little during the first act.
Mr. Basil Gill's Pygmalion has the same
manly sincerity that distinguished it when
the play had a special performance at
His Majesty's Theatre last year. Mr.
Norman V. Norman is excellent as the
plain, blunt soldier, Teucippe, and Miss
Susan Richmond is charming and girlish
as Myrene. Miss Claire Pauncefort, as
Daphne, Mr. John Anderson and Mr.
Arthur Vezan, as the two slaves, complete
an excellent cast.his wish Wayne continues to delight
by her matchless studies of London types.
Tortoise jingles in a marvelous and
original manner, the Magdalen's ardent
admiration in their society dances,
and M. Desire Defaux is never allowed to
depart until he has made his violin sing
again and yet once again.

MABEL KOOPMAN.

STAR SPANGLED BANNER NIGHT.

American enthusiasm ruled high at the
Globe Theatre on Friday night, when the
house was densely crowded, and several
members of the Allied Embassies were
recognised in stalls and boxes. Gaby
Deslys appeared in a specially designed
dress showing the flags of all the Allied
nations with the English colours over her
heart, and the French and American
colours next. Her headpiece was of stu-
pendous height in red, white, and blue,
and covered with stars. Miss Florence
Barrow, who plays the part of the School-
mistress in "Suzette," sported a head-
dress resembling that of the Statue of
Liberty, New York Harbour, and wore a
splendid crimson cloak spread out like the
wings of a bat.Of the £30,000 spent during the year by
the Professional Classes War Relief Coun-
cil, £4,200 was devoted to fees to musicians
for 760 concerts given in camps and hos-
pitals.Mr. Alfred Capper has just returned
from France, and has promised to give his
thought-rending séance at Nottingham
next Friday in aid of the War Emergency
Fund of the Walls and Strays Society.
The chair will be taken by the Duke of
Portland.

APPEAL FOR THE "OLD VIC."

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—May we, through your columns,
draw attention to the remarkable public
work of the "Old Vic." Theatre in the
Waterloo-road, and appeal for financial
support to meet the cost of certain struc-
tural alterations now required in the build-
ing by the London County Council?We are aware that only urgent neces-
sity can justify such an appeal in war-
time. But the work of this theatre is
proving so valuable to thousands of sol-
diers as well as to the general public, and
its Shakespearean matinees for L.C.C.
school children have been attended by so
many thousands of children from ten to
sixteen years of age, that we feel it would
be a public calamity should its work be
suspended.Since September, 1914, it has given every
week, except during the summer vacations,
Shakespeare and other classical plays,
operas in English, and public lectures at
charges for seats ranging from 3d. to
2s. 6d. During its last season it gave 70
performances of 17 grand operas in
English, 158 performances of 17 of Shake-
speare's plays, and plays by Goldsmith,
Sheridan, and other famous dramatists.
During the present season it has already
given 72 performances of grand opera in
English and 171 performances of Shake-
speare and classical plays, as well as 19
performances at the Excelsior Hall,
Bethnal Green, and 4 performances at the
Northern Polytechnic, Holloway-road.It gives two matinees weekly of a Shake-
speare play to children from London
County Council, secondary, and county
schools, at prices ranging from 3d. to 1s.
According to a return made to the Entertain-
ment Tax authorities no less than
27,000 children attended the theatre for
Shakespeare performances between October
and December, 1916. During the whole
season more than 50,000 children were
present at school matinees, these perfor-
mances counting, by permission of the educa-
tional authorities, as school attendances.
The audiences are large. On Saturday
nights frequently more than 2,000 are
present. It is our one "People's Play and
Opera House" presenting continually at
cheap prices the finest music and the finest
plays.The London County Council, in view of
the fact that "the performances now con-
sist of a repertoire of Shakespearean,
operatic and other productions, in which
a large number of persons and a consider-
able amount of scenery and properties are
employed," requires a considerable expen-
diture on structural alterations to meet
these new conditions. New and improved
dressing-rooms are required; ventilation
and heating apparatus have to be im-
proved; the fire-curtain has to be rena-
vated; fresh means of exit have to be pro-
vided; improvements must be made in the
lighting.Estimates have been prepared, and it is
calculated that a capital sum of about
£7,000 is required. Towards this amount
a sum of £200, part of the Emma Cons
Memorial Fund, is available. An Appeal
Committee has been appointed of the
undersigned to take steps to raise the
balance.The successful activities of the "Old
Vic." elevate popular recreation. We
appeal to all those who appreciate the im-
portance of continuing and extending these
activities to support the appeal in a prac-
tical way. Donations of any amount will
be welcomed, and should be addressed to
the Hon. Treasurer, Appeal Fund, "Old
Vic.," Waterloo-road, S.E. 1. Cheques and
postal orders should be crossed London
County and Westminster Bank, Ltd.—
Yours faithfully,JOHNSTON FORBES-ROBERTSON.
SIDNEY LEE.
EDITH LYTTELTON.
MARIE STOPES.
EVERARD G. THORNE.
FREDERICK WHELEN.Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo-rd., S.E. 1.
April 18, 1917.

MR. IRVING'S NEW "HAMLET."

The acting version of "Hamlet," which
Mr. H. B. Irving has prepared for pro-
duction at the Savoy to-morrow, is de-
signed to give prominence to the story
of the play, even at the sacrifice of the
"literary" element. Consequently, some
of the famous quotations and episodes will
be missed. There is to be no Christmas
cock; no remarks on Danish drunkenness;
no talk about the child actors; no speech
to the players on the art of acting; no
even Polonius's advice to Laertes will be
dispensed with. The Ghost will not say
"I could a tale unfold"; Hamlet will not
say "Give me that man that is not
passion's slave"; and the musing Osew
will disappear altogether.One of Mr. Irving's objects is to make
it clear to the audience what happened
to Hamlet between the murder of Polonius
and his reappearance in the graveyard,
and for that purpose he is revealing
Hamlet's feelings as expressed in the
soliloquy. "How all occasions do inform
against me," after seeing the troops of
Portinbras, has preserved the talk about
going to England at the close of the scene
in the Queen's closet, and the scene in
which Horatio receives Hamlet's letter
about his adventure, and has brought in
from the First Quarto a little scene in
which Hamlet tells the Queen of Hamlet's
escape and of his appointment to meet him
on the east side of the city. The third
act, too, includes the first four scenes of
the fourth act, thus holding together the
matter of the mission to England.

THE THEATREGOERS' GUIDE.

List of West End Theatres open, with address, phone number, current attraction, and time of starting the performance.

ADELPHI (Strand).—"High Jinks," 8. Matinees, Wednesday and Saturday at 2. Gerr. 2645 and 8886.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Double Dutch," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 3243.

CRITERION (Piccadilly-circus).—"A Little Bit of Fluff," 8.30. Matinees, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2.30. Regent 3365 and Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Leicester-square).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 8. Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 2. Gerr. 892.

DEURY LANE (Catherine-street, W.C.).—"Intolerance," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 2598.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane).—"Daddy Long Legs," 2.30; Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat., 8.15. Gerr. 514.

GAITY (Strand).—"Theodore and Co.," 8; Wednesday, Saturday, 2. Gerr. 2780.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Suzette," 8.15; Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 2.30. Gerr. 8722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket).—"General Post," 8.30; Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 2.30. Regent 6030.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Matinees, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 2.15. Gerr. 1777.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street).—"Seven Days' Leave," 7.45; Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7617-8.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Romance," 8.15; Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30. Gerr. 3687.

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1, 8, and various on.

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BROMLEY CHALLENGER
IN

WHEN KNIGHTS WERE BOLD

This week—T.R., BOLTON.

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"David Garrick."
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MR. W. V. GARROD'S TOURS.

14th consecutive year.

"The Millionaire and the Woman," by
Chas. Darrell. Vac. May 21, July.

"A Pitman's Daughters" and "A Love
Marriage." Vac. April 30, June 18, Aug. 6.

"The Heart of a Thief." Summer vacancies.
Alex., Birmingham. Playhouse, Wakefield.

D'O'LY CARTE

OPERA COMPANY.

This week, BELFAST.

All inquiries in connection with the above
Company and applications for permission
for Amateur Performances of the Operas
by Sir W. S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan
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D'O'ly Carte,
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OPERA COMPANY, LIMITED.

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Mr. Charles Manners, Managing Director.

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The Oldest Opera Company in the
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Returned from S. Africa. 34, Coleridge-place,
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Disengaged.
St. Aldate House, Gloucester.

MISS BEATRICE FAY

(Mrs. John F. Ash)
Felix Villa, Tonbridge, Kent.

MISS MOLLY GILMOUR.

Solo Dancer and Sourette. This
week, Palace, Reading. Next week,
Golder's Green. Business Manager, J.
Mait Jones.

MRS. E. HILL-MITCHELSON.

21, Pemberton-gardens,
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MRS. WALTER HOWARD

(Miss Agnes Chesson).
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Florence Lovell.
Bolton. Next, Prince's T., Manchester.

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Prin. Mezzo, Lt. Com. Juv. Dis.
Good Co.'s only. 178, Kyverdale-rd., N. 16.

MISS JOSEPHINE MIDDLE-

TON. This week, Brixton Theatre.
Dis April 30. P.O., A. A., 32, Regent-st., W.

MISS LOLA PATEY.

Permanent address, c/o "The Era."

MISS CLARA REID

Supporting Fred Sinclair in "Kitty's
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Good offers invited. Mr. Frank
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At lib. May 7; P. Parts or Manage-
ment. H. Newcastle. Next, T.R., Bham.

MR. J. HASTINGS BATSON.

"The G.O.M. of Filmland. If he were
in America would not be left to rust."
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Advices on Insurance. Write me.
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FAY GARNET WAYNE. At
Liberty. G. H. D. relinquished engage-
ment as Tiddim in Alvin Korthwick's
"Lucky Jim." Heavies, Char. (Bartone).
F. G. V., Leeds. 113, New Kent-rd., S.E. 1.

MR. JOHN M. EAST.

Disengaged.
C/o "The Era."

MR. FREDDIE FOSTER.

Stage and Bus. Manager. Light
Comedian. Army classification, C.3.
April 30, disengaged Monday.

Wire,
Empire, Kingston-on-Thames.

MR. ALFRED GODDARD.

Mr. Gregory in "Mr. Wu."
32, Regent-street, W. 1, or Agents.

MR. FRED GROVE.

Ingot ("Garick"). This, G.T.,
Swansea; next, New T., Cardiff.

MR. ALFRED HARDING.

"Potash and Perimeter" Tour.
Address, 50, Pelham-road, Wimbledon, S.W.

MR. JOHN HARRISON.

at liberty.
Address, 73, Albert-road, Colne.

MR. J. COURT HARVARD.

Character, Comedy, Old Men.
Cameo Characterisations in "The Big
Show." Empire, Swansea.

MR. EDMUND KENNEDY.

Disengaged May 7.

Concluding 300th performance of Dr.
Napier (Lead) in "Case of Lady Cam-
ber." Hyacinth (Lead), in "Angel in the
House." This, T.R., Bourne-mouth.

Next, O.H., Cheltenham.

P.A., 38, Sydney-road, West Ealing, W.
(Phone: 1058 Ealing.)

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.

"Mr. R. H. Lace's Biondello is per-
fect." Arrangements complete. A. A.

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Business and S. Man. On Tour. 3,
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GAN (Miss Lillie Johnson). Leads,
Heavies, &c. Arrangements complete.

MR. WILLIAM MATTHEWS.

Disengaged.
Re Nita Rae's plays.
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MR. F. PENNINGTON-GUSH.

Dis. Juvenile Leading Parts. 12,
Lisenden-mans, Lisenden-gdns., N.W. 5.

MR. ERIC RAYLE

Reh. spec. week with Miss Florence
Baines. Dis. May 7. Prin. Char. Com.
Leading Actor, Lt. Com. Good-clas work
only. Emp., Rotherham. Next, T.R.,
Bolton.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON.

Jones, "What Happened to Jones."
This, T.R., Colchester; next, T.R., Scar-
borough (3); and O.H., Harnage (3).

MR. MARTIN SANDS.

At liberty. May 7. 22, Clevedon-
mansions, Highgate-road, N.W. 5.

MR. ARCHIE SELWYN.

"Jerry" Co. This week, New T.,
Salisbury. Next, T.R., Cambridge.

MR. E. W. THOMAS and
AGNES KNIGHTS. E.W.T. at lib.
now and autumn. 7, Grafton-square, Clap-
ham Common, S.W.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,

Dis. Char. Parts or Old Men.
27, Charring-street, N.W. 1.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR.

Tom Kemp, "The Molineux."
Repertory Theatre, Plymouth.

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Attractions to apply for Dates for
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Wire or write for terms to
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Tivoli, Manchester.

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First Class Attraction

ARTISTES WANTED.

JOSEPH MILLANE'S STOCK COMPANY.
THEATRE ROYAL, OLDHAM.
WANTED, Artists in or near Manchester, wishing to fill in odd weeks, please communicate to above.
JOSEPH MILLANE'S COMPANIES.

WANTED, Heavy Leading Man, to rehearse here at once, for four. Short part.
Business Manager, one who can type and play short part if required preferred (stock season here).
All particulars to
JOS. MILLANE,
Theatre Royal, Oldham.

THEATRE ROYAL, PORTSMOUTH.
Repertory Stock Season.
Commencing June 4.

Vacancy for Ingenue, to open as Maria in "School for Scandal," and similar parts to follow during long season.

WANTED, Young Lady, of good experience and exceptional appearance and capability, who is keen and enthusiastic, and prepared to take the fullest advantage of the opportunity offered for good work under the most favourable conditions and surroundings.

Appearance, style, and good modern wardrobe absolutely essential.
Liberal salary paid.
Rehearsals commence May 21.
There are no other vacancies in the company.

PETER DAVEY,
Theatre Royal,
Portsmouth.

WANTED, Good and Reliable Producer for Resident Stock Drama Season, South Wales, end of June over military age preferred. References and terms to Box 1,041, "The Era."

WANTED, rehearse April 30, Light Com. (look 23 on); state whether sing or dance; Char. Actor for Elderly Major; Tall, Robust Actor for Police Inspector. Recent reference, height, summer terms, MARK BLOW, Grand T. Wolverhampton.

WANTED, immediately, Light Comedian; also Comedian; both good voices; Musical Director; Porter. Apply with photo. REVUE PRODUCER, Palace, Gravesend.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE."
WANTED, Good Character Actor for "Handkerchief" (Prison Warden); also Good Responsible Actor, Terms and full particulars in first, LEONARD LAURENCE, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

WANTED, first-class Heavy Man, rehearse immediately. GLAZE, T.R., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, rehearse immediately, stock, first-class Heavy Man; open Monday. WIRE, MCCLELLAN, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, a tall Character Actor for Joe Shottwell part. Rehearse at once, open Monday. Terms, &c., ALEXANDER, 6, Canada-road, Walmer, Kent.

WANTED, rehearse Monday; open Thursday, May 3, Wolverhampton; good Responsible Man for small Character part. Full particulars, WILL CASSEY, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

WANTED, for Small Revue, Second Comedian; must be good feeder and totally capable. Apply between 10 a.m. and 11.30, 37a, Lower Belgrave-street, Victoria, S.W. 1.

WANTED, a really first-class Revue Producer. Apply by letter, with full parts, to Box 1,053, "The Era."

WANTED, Gentlemen, smart appearance, good vocalist and accompanist; rehearse at once; to join two ladies in singing and dancing. Write full particulars, terms, and photo (to be returned), to D. D. and CO., Box 1,068, "The Era."

WANTED, Full Company First-Class Artists.
Stock season.
Send full particulars, to rehearse May 7, to ALFRED DENVILLE, Hippodrome, Bolton.

WANTED, to open May 7, ladies and gentlemen, for small hall (joint ref. not essential). Gentle, Heavy Leads or Character; ladies, Leads, Respons., or Cham. Maids. Able to do turns. Those with portable exp. preferred; long engagement guaranteed. Refs. and lowest terms for long engagement, MANAGER, Star Hall (established 1894), Frankfort-st., Plymouth.

WANTED, to rehearse immediately, Gentlemen in all lines for the C. Watson Mill Repertory Co., Tour and Stock. Bookings extend right through the summer, and will probably extend through the autumn. Full particulars, age, height, references, and lowest terms, C. WATSON MILL, Theatre Royal, Leamington Spa. Those known personally please wire.

WANTED, Artists, Stock and Tour. Turns. Rehearse and open immediately. Money sure. WEST, Assembly Rooms, South Molton, Devon.

WANTED, immediately, for Tour, boys and girls, over 14, small, with good voices. Call, Thursday 4, or write, EDWARDS, Duke of Argyll, Gt. Windmill-street, Piccadilly.

G. CARLTON WALLACE'S PLAYS.
WANTED, to augment company for stock season at Cheltenham, first-class Character Leading Gentleman, Character Comedian, or Juvenile Lead, capable of heavy, must be young, pretty, and dress well; also Child Actress, 12, to rehearse London, May 21. Send photos, age, height, terms, and full particulars, this O.H. Wakefield; next, Hippo, Bolton.

WANTED, Smart Chorus Girl, at once. Photos, (stamp), refs., lowest terms, JAMES HAWKES, Palace T., Redditch, Wores.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, must be smart and good looking. Apply Friday morning, at 12 o'clock, BEDFORD REVUE CO., LTD., 16, Bedford-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Two Chorus Men, Apply immediately, EDELSTEIN and BURNS, Walter House, 418, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Dancers, at once, for Ballet for JACK GOO, Comedian, and Dancer, co. 10 weeks' Panto, and Revue, 6, Albert-road, Tamworth, Staffs.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Eng. by Contralto; thoroughly exp.; Musical Act preferred. D. H., 101, Caulfield-rd., East Ham, London.

WANTED, Known, a Young Tenor (in-eligible) wants Picking-up Lesson from good man; only those with influence, who can place him, need answer; has studied some time; can act, dance little; must remain in town; known artists preferred. Box 1,058, "The Era."

WANTED, Mon. Revue or C. P. by JACK GOO, Comedian, and Dancer, co. 10 weeks' Panto, and Revue, 6, Albert-road, Tamworth, Staffs.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS WANTED.

ALFRESCO PERFORMANCES.
WANTED, Ladies' Troupe (high-class Vocalists, Instrumentalists, and Dancers) for St. Andrews, Fifeshire, Scotland. Apply, stating proposed length of season and rent offered for stage, and with full particulars, references, and photos, to TOWN CLERK, St. Andrews, by Monday, April 30.

PALACE PIER, BRISTOL.
WANTED, smart up-to-date Concert Party, for May 7 (12 shows).
All communications to the MANAGER.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS' WANTS.

WANTED, May 14, follow Camberne, and later dates, Frederick Mantell's "Masco," the BRICA-BRACS. Coms., 130, Tachbrook-st., London, S.W. 1.

CINEMA EMPLOYMENT.

WANTED, Director, to produce cinematograph films immediately; good education necessary. Write, stating commencing salary, Box 1,048, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Cinema or Stage Beginners, write for an appointment. KING, Flat 1, 3, Cranworth-gate, Brixton.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Known, a few Vacancies occur in class for children between 12 and 14 years; reduced fees to bright children. Solo dancing taught.
Careful training for small children.

Call or write,
9, Great Newport-street,
opposite Leicester-square Tube.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, experienced Resident Manager for Midlands (ineligible); must have thorough knowledge of general management and booking of theatres, music halls and picture houses in all their respective spheres. First-class references essential. State terms. Apply, Box 465, "The Era."

WANTED, Stage Manager, Carpenter, and Wardrobe Mistress. Apply, Friday, at 12 o'clock, BEDFORD REVUE COMPANY, 16, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, Carpenter, to open at Leicester May 5 (Saturday week); terms for summer £2 10s.; a very long, comfortable, and easy engagement to a sober and reliable man; must be able to play small part policeman. Send exact age, height, and last two references, which will be applied for, to CARLTON, Gaiety Theatre, Melhill, Scotland.

WANTED, to open at once, good Carpenter and Baggage Man combined; own tools; must be strictly sober and ineligible; long tour to right man. Wire or write, MARIE SANTOI, this Theatre Royal, Winchester; next, Palace, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Carpenter and Baggage. Box 1,055, "The Era."

WANTED, Electrician, one able to take charge of stage staff; good wages; ineligible. Apply, MANAGER, Royal Artillery Theatre, Woolwich.

WANTED, Known, Dis. for Management or Controlling Man. of Music Halls or Theatres; knowledge of booking. G. HOWARD WATSON, Glee House, Whitton Road, Twickenham.

WANTED, by Stage Manager, Carpenter Post at once; used variety; ineligible. STAGE MANAGER, 4, Church-st., Lisson-grove, N.W. 8.

WANTED, Position by reliable Stage Manager, Carpenter; res. or tour; can open at once; ineligible. Write, wire, D. B., 85, Brandon-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Working Stage Manager seeks re-engagement; could open Monday; ineligible; excellent refs. Box 1,061, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Management, Music Hall or First-class Cinema. W. P., Box 1,056, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by reliable and practical Carpenter; own tools; resident or tour; refer late managers, Moreton and Heath, Mr. O'Neil, manager for Mr. Martin Harvey, Mr. Evans, R.T., here. MASON, Royalty, Barrow-in-Burness.

WANTED, Known, Youth (15) desires to assist Actress or Actor; no experience, but willing and quick to learn.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Violin-Conductor, who can select music to suit potpourri, S.O.; afterwards and evenings. Copies of refs., age, salary required, to MANAGER, Palace, Bedford.

MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA, ILKLEY.
WANTED, for season, June 30 to Sept. 9, a good Violinist (Conductor); thoroughly experienced; state if a library; First Violins, Oboe, Corneils, Trombone, Drums (ladies or gents). Apply (in first letter), terms, and references, H. JAXON, 15, Mortimer-street, London, W. 1.

WANTED, for London, E., First-class Leader, good salary. Also a good Organist for Stoke Newington. Also the following for Sheffield: Leader, Pianist, Solo Bass and Organ. Call, this morning, 11 to 12, or after 3, at Premier Theatre, Basfield, Wandswoth, S.W.

WANTED, good, experienced Leader (lady); good terms. NERUDA NORMAN, Deansgate Picture House, Manchester.

WANTED, good Lady Violinist Leader, open Monday next; good library. Full particulars and terms, MANAGER, Grand Theatre, Kidderminster.

WANTED, for Yarmouth, thoroughly exp. Leader, Picture and Variety, 6 till 9.30. Open Monday. Wire terms. ABBOTT'S AGENCY, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, First Violin, for both Woboch and Regate; open at once; lady preferred, used to pictures and come, Woboch.

WANTED, Known, required, Smart Amateur Violinist, ditto Cellist, for Refined Concert Party, London. Address, "Entertainment," Box 1,043, "The Era."

WANTED, First and Second Violinist or Cello, for Sunday evenings. Write or apply, any day after 2 o'clock MANAGER, Scala Cinema, 255, Hammer-smith-road.

WANTED, good Violin, Clarinet, Cornet (ladies or gents), May 26 to Sept. 14, twice daily; 27 hours' week, 6 days. Refs., age, and lowest terms, ROWE, Musical Director, Municipal Orchestra, Aberystwyth.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately, for Yorkshire and adjoining Counties, summer season, also for Blackpool, Lady Musicians, as under: Good Violinists, Cellists, Pianists, Organists, Basses, Drummers, Cornetists, Flautists. Other vacancies. Wire or write, WINIFRED DONALD, L.R.A.M., Midland Counties Orchestra Supply, 144, Harlington-road, Grantham.

WANTED, a good, solid Violin, for pictures and varieties; about 5 hours daily, no Sunday work; comfortable engagement; lady or gent. Send terms and refs. to F. P. CHOPPIN, M.D., The Playhouse, Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, ABBOTT'S ORCHESTRAL SCHOOL, Finest training school in London for Violinists and Pianists who wish to become leaders. A thorough training in orchestral organ-playing. Classes daily. Low fee. Call or write for prospectus. 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

DEVONSHIRE PARK ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS.
WINTER GARDEN, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, First Cornet, for Summer Season, May 26 until Sept. 30; two concerts daily, once Sundays. Apply, stating experience, age, to NORFOLK MEGONE, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Good Cornet Player.
Also
Trombone,
for Musical Act.
Must be strong players.
This Palace, Barrow.
Next, Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, immediately, Lady Cornetist. Terms, wire or write, WINIFRED DONALD, L.R.A.M., 144, Harlington-road, Grantham.

WANTED, Four Violinists, good amateurs might suit. ABBOTT'S AGENCY, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Lady Violinists; must be young. Apply, Stage Door, London Hippodrome, 12.30 Wed., April 25, and Thursday, April 26.

WANTED, for Cinema, East Ham. Lady Violinist, Repetiteur. Apply, Thursday morning, 12 o'clock, 23, Marlborough-hill, St. John's Wood.

WANTED, a first-class Violinist for Pictures and Variety, from 6 p.m. till 10 p.m.; no Sunday work. To open Monday next. E. SAVAGE, Electric Theatre, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, Lady Violinist for High-class Café in York-shire, twice daily, no Sunday work. Apply, QUEENIE HOWARD, 8, Churchfield-rd., East Acton, W.

WANTED, Lady Musicians, for long sea-side engagement; Violins, Cello, Bass, Flute, Cornet, and Band. Apply, stating orchestral experience, Box 1,000, "The Era."

WANTED, First Horn, for permanent engagement.
Apply, G. B. ROBINSON, Pump Room Orchestra, Bath.

WANTED, immediately, Lady Bass. State terms. Wire or write, WINIFRED DONALD, L.R.A.M., 144, Harlington-road, Grantham.

WANTED, Wanted, Double Bass. Age, &c., terms, references, WALTER SULLIVAN, Grand Theatre, Luton.

WANTED, D. Bass for Yarmouth, 6 till 9.30, no Sunday; half fare paid. Open Monday. ABBOTT'S AGENCY, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, reliable Bass for cinema in Greenock; per. lady or gent.; £2 8s. 9d. 26 hours weekly. ERNEST CROCKE, 6, South-st., Greenock.

WANTED, competent Euphonium and Trombone; ineligible for Army; salary 40s., with opportunity to augment. Address, ISAAC BERRY, Leader, Bock's Menagerie, Gatehead-on-Tyne, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

WANTED, for season, May 27 to Sept. 30, for Victoria Pier, Blackpool, Solo Euph., Trom., Flute and Pic., D. Drums; also Accompanist, Piano and Harmonium. CRAMER-SUCKLEY, O.H., St. Helens.

WANTED, at once, for Glasgow Coliseum Trombone; must be experienced in high-class variety; A.M.U. Write, enclosing copies references, to N. P. Moss Empires, Ltd., Cranbourne Mansions, W.C. 2.

WANTED, good Lady Cellist, for London restaurant. Apply, by letter only, to FLORENCE CRAISTER, Cabin, Piccadilly, S.W. 1.

WANTED, lady Celliste, for Café, Midlands; 44 hours daily; to start April 21 or 22. Also Leader for Café, 5 hours daily, North of England, April 16. No Sunday work in either case. Apply, QUEENIE HOWARD, 8, Churchfield-road, East Acton, W. 3.

WANTED, Cellist, lady or gent., for S.O. pictures only; afterwards and evenings; start at once. Refs., experience, salary, required, to MANAGER, Palace, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Lady Celliste, immediately, for sea-side café. Mme. BAKER, 62, Earham-grove, Forest Gate.

WANTED, Cellist for London. Apply immediately, ABBOTT'S AGENCY, 47, Uxbridge-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, for Yarmouth, Celliste, 6 till 9.30, no Sundays; half fare paid. Open Monday. Wire terms immediately. ABBOTT'S AGENCY, 47, Uxbridge-road, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, Experienced Viola Player as Cadet Servant.
Must be above orchestra.
For particulars, apply, BANDMASTER.

EASTBOURNE MILITARY BAND.
WANTED, Flute and Piccolo, flat pitch, for summer season, commence Saturday, May 26, until end of Sept. State age and experience to
NORFOLK MEGONE, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists for Lytham, middle July to mid-Sept.; twice daily Sunday included. State terms, exp. Flute, Clarinet, Trombone, Cornet, Euph., Cello, D. Bass, M. D., 83, Reads-avenue, Blackpool.

THE CINEMA ORCHESTRA.
Under the direction of MAURICE PIENA.
WANTED, Instrumentalists, including Pianists and Organists, desirous of gaining experience in Orchestral Playing, are invited to join above orchestra. Engagements when proficient. All particulars from SECRETARY, 13, Birchington-road, Kilburn, N.W. 6. Phone, Hampstead 7246.

MAURICE PIENA'S ORCHESTRAS.
WANTED, Musicians to register for Opera, Theatre, hotel, restaurant and cinema. First-class engagements. Come to SECRETARY, 13, Birchington-road, Kilburn, N.W. 6.

WANTED, Musicians to register for Opera, Theatre, hotel, restaurant and cinema. First-class engagements. Come to SECRETARY, 13, Birchington-road, Kilburn, N.W. 6.

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MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Pianist-Organist for London Picture Hall, state salary; also Under Pianist. Apply by letter, A. E. ABRAHAM, 114, Earham-grove, Forest Gate.

WANTED, Pipe Organist, afternoons only; town; lady or gentleman. Also good Relief Pianist for Tottenham district. Apply, MADAM WALTERS, 3, Maclesfield-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, good Pianist - Organist; must be musician; 7 nights weekly, no matinees. Terms, FRED BOULTON, Palace, Bordon, Hants. (Good Trio write).

WANTED, Organist, for orchestra (not pipe); hours, 4 daily, no Sunday work. State experience and terms to MANAGER, Vaudeville Electric Theatre, Reading.

HARROGATE MUNICIPAL ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Accompanist, to combine Violoncello, Solo, Flute, and Piccolo and String Bass. JULIAN CLIFFORD, Kersall, Harrogate.

WANTED, lady Relief Pianist; afternoons and evenings; also Cellist, evenings only; for Cinema, S.W. Box 1,054, "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist (lady or gent.), for variety. Apply, M. D. Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Mon. next, Pianiste, for small orchestra; salary 30s.; once nightly pictures. SINCLAIR, Empire, Biggleswade, Beds.

WANTED, Variety Pianist and Violoncello. A.M.U. terms. Apply to BENJAMIN PARKS, M.D., Hip, Coventry.

WANTED, first-class, thoroughly experienced Pianist (orchestra); South Coast; four hours' playing daily; good salary; permanent. Full particulars and references to L. W., Box 1,057, "The Era."

WANTED, experienced Orchestral Pianist, over military age. Evenings and two matins. Refs. CONDUCTOR, 74, Chalmers-street, Dundermine.

WANTED, at once, Pianist (male or female), accustomed to orchestras playing, for high-class continuous picture theatre. Apply, with refs., and lowest terms, to MANAGER, Picture House, Ocean-road, South Shields.

WANTED, at once, a good Cinema Pianiste.
Apply, MANAGER,
Central Hall, Hortham.

WANTED, Ladies' Orchestra, for Low-class picture theatre, piano, double bass, cello and contrabass, and one matinee, open next Monday. Apply, MAY WALTERS, 3, Maclesfield-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, a Ladies' Orchestra, immediately, for sea-side tour. Once nightly and one matinee. Also Instrumentalists. Good position now awaiting ladies and gentlemen. MARY WALTERS, 3, Maclesfield-street.

WANTED, Trio Ladies, or good Leader and Repetiteur; High-class Pictures; Southampton, evenings, 2 matinees. Also Second Violin, for Concert Orchestras. Performer requiring exp. write. MUSICAL DIRECTRESS, Duke of York's, Preston Circus, Brighton.

Royal Marines Band.
WANTED, Boys under 17 years of age, knowledge of wind or stringed instruments, needs if possible (flute and clarinet).
Apply to Lieut. J. S. NICHOLSON,
Director of Music, Royal Marines, Deal.

Music on Hire.
WANTED, Musical Directors and Mandolin Music Library. Overtures, Selections, Songs, Latest Popular Music. Music selected to suit all films. 200 testimonials. Send synopsis and is. for specimen parcel. The largest and best library in the world. ALGERNON CLARKE, Proprietor, 15, Londale-road, Barnes, London, S.W. 13.

WANTED, Musical Directors to write for particulars of EASTON'S MUSIC LENDING LIBRARY; very moderate terms. "Elmwood," Atkins-road, Clapham Park, London, S.W. Phone, Streatham 960.

MUSIC ON HIRE.
WANTED, Musical Directors to Take Advantage of our Music Lending Library. Latest values, two-step, intermezzi, marches, &c. Eight full orchestras for 1s. per week. A large selection of standard overtures, selections, and suites. Send is. for sample parcel; also Piano Solos, 8 for 1s. G. G. ALMAN'S MUSIC W. Also HOUSE, 78-80, Ocean-rd., South Shields.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.
WANTED, Engagement as Musical Director to cinema company, or hotel, theatre, by well-known Solo Pianist and Composer (Englishman).
Experienced in Cinema work.
Now fulfilling engagement at a West-End cinema.
(London only).
Box 1,039, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by M. Directress (Piano) Any bus. Liberty May 7. Good library. Refs. A.M.U., England preferred. LAURA BECKETT, M.D., Pavilion, Dumbarton.

WANTED, Engt. Violinist, Musical Director (gent. Variety, Cinema; lady Pianiste - Organiste. ANDREWS, 155, Sumatra-road, West Hampstead.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director, Leader and Solo Violinist (Russian) and Lady Pianiste, desire change. Splendid library. Audition by appointment only. Write, to Hawthorne Dene, Strawberry Vale, East Finchley.

WANTED, Engt. by Conductress (piano) exp. Var. and Pic. large library. A. S., 95, Pagitt-street, Chatham.

WANTED, Known, through closing. HAYDN P. HALSTEAD, Pianist, Conductor, at Lib. Monday next, 17 years' exp. Abstainer. Exempt. Variety pref. or tour. Best offers to Opera House, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, by first-class Violinist, Leader, engagement in good cinema or seaside orchestra. DRAKE, 26, Donwicks, Birkdale, Southport.

WANTED, Known, Ladies, at Lib. May 14 till July. Leader and Repetiteur. B. TRAVERS, Barnham, Sussex.

WANTED, Re-eng. by Leader, Violin; any good exp. in cinema work; only good offers entertained for London or Seaside. Box 1,055, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. by Lady Violinist as Repetiteur, ex. Secord, ex. Secord, ex. Secord, 15, Richborough-road, N.W. 2.

WANTED, Engt. exp. Repetiteur Violinist; Cinema pref.; free May 14. DORIS WATTS, 55, Inglethorpe-st., S.W. 6.

WANTED, First Violin and Rep. open for Engt.; good; experienced orchestra. Write, Box 1,045, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, by First Violinist, Variety business; experienced. Particulars, LEONARD BURNETT, 3, Slater-street, Oldham-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by experienced Pianist and Violoncello, together (lady and gent.); great repertoire; up-to-date lib. Apply, TAYLOR, full band parts, VIOLINIST, 22, Charles-street, Redcat.

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MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, April 30, Violin (rep.), 2nd or Viola; Varieties or Th.; used to Revues; A.M.U. member. CHARLES HIGHFIELD, 39, Kensington-road, Southport; after April 29, Pickering, Yorks.

WANTED, Engt. exp. Violinist; own library. EDITH L. MAINWOOD, G.S.M., 25, Amner-rd., Clapham Com., S.W.

WANTED, Hotel Engt. Violiniste (lady); experienced orchestra; will take rep.
Write, Box 1,044, "The Era."

WANTED, engagement, by lady Violinist, orchestra (not leader); experienced. 8, Park-crescent-rd., Brighton.

WANTED, Engagement, by BRILLIANT VIOLINIST, Cinema, Hotel, or Café.
First-class offers only.
Box 1,039, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Genl. Solo Violinist (ragtime or studio), wishes to join Act on music halls. Apply, Box 1,051, "The Era."

WANTED, Engt. D. Bass Player (lady), sea-side Eng. for short summer season, 8 or 10 weeks. Box 1,062, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, D. Bass; good ref. London only. PEEPE, 37, Bendish-street, Lissong Grove, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Trombonist; ineligible; considerably experienced. Variety, Concert work; accept offers, sea-side, &c.; ex. credentials. Box 1,060, "The Era

PARTNERS WANTED.

WANTED, lady or gentleman, to take small financial interest in high-class Repertory Company; West-end producer and cast; long season; opening in May in fashionable provincial town; good parts could be arranged; exceptional opportunity. Write, X 8, c/o May and Williams, Piccadilly, W. 1.

WANTED, by Comedian, Gent. to finance a revue. Letters only, to P. J., 28, Sydney-st., Kensington, S.W. 3.

WANTED, Partner, to invest £250 in revue; liberal return; or would let on Hire; everything ready. ADVERTISER, 4, Newbold-st., Leamington.

BAND PARTS, SONGS, ETC.

WANTED Known, Band Parts Arranged, orig. song, 12 & 14 ss.; transposed in octaves. W. WEEKS, M.D., 66, Queen's-way, Nottingham.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED Known, Theatrical and Fancy Costumes, Wigs, Toe-shoes, &c. Make-up Instruction Book 6d.; stamp for catalogue. THEATRICAL STORES, 7, Derby-road, Nottingham.

WANTED, the Address of Miss Dorothy St. Elmore; important. Address, Box 1,087, "The Era."

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

McDOWELL'S AGENCY, Revues, and Big Star Specialities, also Act in all lines, for immediate dates. Apply by letter to 72, New Oxford-st., Telephone, Museum 284. Telegrams, "Ancestrae, West Cent."

EMPIRE THEATRE, GARSTON.

WANTED, Artists in all lines, for immediate and future dates. Terms and particulars to H. BARCLAY, General Manager, as above.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines and Prices, but must be worth the money. TOM PACEY, Kilmarnock, Newk.

WANTED, Big Act, immediately. ARTHUR JOEL'S AGENCY, 6, Bromley-place, Nottingham.

WANTED, Artists, Vocalists, Small Musical, Specialty, or Novelty Acts.

Performers now to London or those desiring an opportunity of presenting new material under ideal orchestral and stage conditions, please send full particulars, time and stage cost required. Address: ARTIST, Mile End Emp., Mile End-road, E. 1.

MILNE'S VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, 135, Wellington-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Specialists, Comedy Doubles, &c., now to Scotland and Ireland. Date sheets, lowest, first letter.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all lines, Star Comedians, Star Comedienne, Comedy Acts, &c. this unique act is being many of the principal towns. Few vacancies this year, above and below, 25, follow Metropole; July 9 and 16, precede Empress, Brighton, Aug. 6, between London and Harrogate; Aug. 27, Sept. 3, between Barrow and London; Oct. 15 and 23, precede and follow Portsmouth; Dec. 3 and 17, precede and follow Barnsey.

RENNIE and ROXBURGH.

This week, Palace, Grimsby, last turn. Road, Bottom of Hill, Next, Palace, Lincoln. Perm. add. Hope Lodge, Taunton.

WANTED, by SILENT TALKING.

AMBER, May 7 and 14, April 23, Hippo, Gloucester; 30, Queen's Farnworth, Lancs. Success everywhere.

WANTED, May 7, on, GALE ST.

JOHN and HARRY BICKLEY, Emp., Mexboro', April 30, 5, Barrington-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 7.

FREDDIE REGENT, Great Dame Specialty Com., assisted by charming Sourette, in Funny Com. Act, Musical and Vocal. Grand, Aberaman, 8, Wales.

Big success, Hippo, Coventry; Pal.

Wanted, Grand, Basildon, Act now, edged the best novelty and comedy act ever played. RHODE and ROCHE, present "The Lizard's Nest." Always sure success and draw.

WANTED, April 30, May 7. Were best offer, Hippocrene, Wichebe, Cambs.

WANTED, Monday next, April 30, also May 14, HARRY and PARTNER, Comedy Acrobats. Offers, Towp Hall, Shirebrook.

WANTED, Monday next, April 30.

by BARNARD and BUNNY, Novelty Comedy Act. A sure success on any bill. Wire or write, this, 61, Camberwell New-road, London, S.E. 5.

WANTED, May 7 (to precede Bristol),

also May 21, 28, by THE MONTAGUES, in latest vaudeville creation, A Road, Bottom of Hill, Next, Palace, Lincoln. Perm. add. Hope Lodge, Taunton.

WANTED, April 30, May 7, WED.

BURNS, Comedy Music and Song. The turn who has made millions laugh. Topping bill, New Hippo, Selby, Yorks. Private, 4, Westbourne-terrace.

WANTED, Monday, to precede Colchester,

by GIBBONS and LADY, Novelty orthodox Vaudevillians. — Lion Hotel, Biscanovon.

WANTED Known, ADAMS and WARD.

Comedienne, Acrobatic and Fatter Comedian. The long, loud laugh creators. Liberty Comedy Co., P.W. address, 99, Bickley-road, Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, by LILLIE

LEOVILLE, Barefoot and Legmanina Dancing Acts. Premier Theatre, Hertford.

WANTED, April 30, by JEAN

BRODIE, in Song and Dance. Wire, Victoria T., Harshill, Staffs.

WANTED, Monday, in Scotland,

by KITTIE BENSON, in Song, Dance, and Impersonations. Wire, 42, Pimlico-road, N. 4.

WANTED, Monday, by MISS IRENE

MAY, Sonnette and Expert Dancer. Refined and Up-to-date. Wire for good show, The Red Lion Hotel, Weedon, Northants.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTS.

"For laughter purposes only." TOM FRANCIS, Tommy, the Comedian. WANTED, Monday, April 30, May 7, 14. Just concluded 10 months' enormous success without a break. You Want Comedy? I can supply it. Wire TOM FRANCIS (Tommy), 5, Kendal-st., Bootle.

WANTED, Monday next, also May 7, by THE TWO LILLIES, Specialty Act, introducing their famous Mirror Dance. Thanks to Joe Hodgson's Agency and Fred Reynolds' Agency for Contracts. This, Hippo, Holyhead. Wire or write.

WANTED, Monday, the THREE DANCING VIVIANES, revue, &c. in speciality dancing Act; eccentric, ice, step, and acrobatic dances. Tuss, Empire, Coventry.

WANTED, EILEEN and MAY TRIO, April 30, May 7; Musical Act, 7 characters. This, Royalty, Chester.

WANTED, next Monday, also May 7, T. E. JOHNSTONE, Vocal Com. This, Olympia. Wire (house add.), 24, Montague-st., Bulwell, Notts.

WANTED, by HARRY LUCK, the Popular Comedian, Mon. next, Apr. 30. Wire, Empire, Grays, Essex.

WANTED, Monday next, TOM LLOYD, Eccentric Comedian. Olympia, Tredgar, H.A., 3, West Hill.

WANTED, Mon. next, by TOMMY CLIFFE, Comedian, Dancer, and Whistologist. 92, Chilton-West-View, N. Shields.

WANTED, April 30, May 7, first vacancy this year, BOMMES, Versatile Artists, British; ineligible; intro. music, hand and foot juggling. An Act away from all others. Wire, 40, Sidney-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, also May 7, England's Foremost Military Musical Expert. Electric Setting, Bright Music, Brilliant Finale. This week, Alhambra, Barnsey. Wires, 18, Westley-st., Barnsey.

WANTED Known, Gent. So's Violoncello (ragtime or serious), wishes to join act on music hall. Apply, Box 1,082, "The Era."

WANTED Known, FRED J. WEBB, Prof. of the Harp. This, Hippo, Leeds; next, Hippo, Liverpool. P.A. 1, Snodgrass, New Cross, S.E. 14.

WANTED, Monday next and May 7, NAPOLI, Dancing Ragtime Violinist. (from the Alhambra, London).

Wanted, NAPOLI,

Opera House, Dunfermline.

WANTED, Monday, by COVERDALE, the Cute Comedian and Mimic. Wires, 505, Holloway-road, London, N.

WANTED, Monday, DAN LAWLEY, Popular Comedian. New Theatre, Crewe; or, 83, Thomas-street.

WANTED, April 30, May 14, SALA-MONSKY SWAR, Russian, Wonderful Bird Imitator and Sifture. Wire offers, 129, Commercial-road, London, E.

RENNIE and ROXBURGH. Last week, Pal, Doncaster, recalled and cheered, and last turn. Last turn!! Admittedly the greatest comedy novelty ever seen in Doncaster.

WANTED, May 7 and 14. Write quickly. Most of 1918 being already booked up by the best houses, Moss' Empires, Syndicate, &c. this unique act is being many of the principal towns. Few vacancies this year, above and below, 25, follow Metropole; July 9 and 16, precede Empress, Brighton, Aug. 6, between London and Harrogate; Aug. 27, Sept. 3, between Barrow and London; Oct. 15 and 23, precede and follow Portsmouth; Dec. 3 and 17, precede and follow Barnsey.

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WANTED, Monday, in Scotland, by KITTIE BENSON, in Song, Dance, and Impersonations. Wire, 42, Pimlico-road, N. 4.

WANTED, Monday, by MISS IRENE MAY, Sonnette and Expert Dancer. Refined and Up-to-date. Wire for good show, The Red Lion Hotel, Weedon, Northants.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTS.

WANTED, May 21, 28, for LILLIAN BBAUMONT, Sketches, "Sally House," and "Woman's Rights" (2 ladies, 1 gent.). This, Playhouse, Hitchin.

CARTER LIVESLEY, in the Famous Comedy Playlet, "AN AMATEUR ANARCHIST," as played at the London Coliseum.

WANTED, Wanted, Monday next, Grand Revival of "THE WOULD-BE ACTORS," as played at the Palace Theatre. Wanted, June 4, onward. Bookings include Yarnmouth, Cheshamford, Nottingham.

Syndicate Halls, New Brighton, Regent, Bedford, &c. Address 85, Kestel-rd., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Monday next, by SURETY and CARLTON TRIO, Great Comedy Act, "Our Sarah Anne" and "A Mid-night Proposal." Grand, Graveland; house, 3, Cottage-place.

WANTED, Monday next, for the greatest of all sketches, "THE NIPPER'S BANK." From Moss' Empires, Syndicate's Halls, &c. Real Comedy. Real Pathos. A human episode with a punch. Wire, BENTLEY, 5, Walworth-rd., Norwich.

FRED POWELL and JOHN BRITAIN Present the acknowledged success, "GETTING THE DINNER IN." Written by John Brittain.

WANTED, May 28, June 4, on. Monday next, Metropole, Manchester. Address, FRED POWELL, 5, Brixton-rd., Hume, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, THE DEN TRIO, in the intense Dramatic War Sketch, "The Belgian's Oath," or in the Musical Comedy Sketch, "A Keystone Wedding." Two Acts if required. Address, T.R., Cradley Heath.

WANTED, May 7, 28, June 4, by THE BROS. WEBB. Renowned Musical Comedians. 64, Nelson-road, N. 1, Yarmouth. April 30, Hippo, Lowestoft.

PHIL REES' LITTLE COPPERS, one of funniest turns imaginable. Show is one long laugh from start to finish (vide Press).

WANTED, May 7, 21, and 28. This, Hippo, Exeter. Next, Emp., Edmonton (3rd visit). Coms. direct, or principal agents.

WANTED, May 7, 14, NELSON HARDY, Khaki Comedy Ventriloquist; the Sergeant and his Recruit; also the Wonderful Life-size Walking Yoke! (his own invention). N. H. re-enlisted at the outbreak of the war, served two years, invalided May 20, 1916. Now seek engagements in my own profession, which I gave up to re-enlist. This week, Public Hall T. Exmouth; next, Empire, L. Edmonton.

WANTED, Monday next, ALBERT Ventriloquist, Novel Electric Dancing Figure. Last week, Kinema, Newham. Offers, 10, Naylar-rd., London, S.E. 15.

WANTED, by BERT WILLIAMS, Ventriloquist, May 7, precede Metropole, Gaiety, Birmingham, or Market Hotel, Next, Emp., Grancham.

WANTED, May 7, 14, 21, BEN SAID, the Arabian Conjuror. A clever and original performance. King's T. Edinburgh.

WANTED, Monday, by RENE the Lady Juggler, Wags 588, Wandsworth-road, Capham, London, S.W.

THE KAVANAGHS, Australian Comedy Jugglers, presenting "The Sports Depot." This, Hippo, Wigan (Bottom and Big Success).

WANTED, April 30, May 7, and 14, Wire, STAN KAVANAGH, c/o Draper, 18, Chapel-lane, Wigan.

WANTED, May 7, 14, 21, FRED CARR & CO., Electrical Novelty Act, including Giant Electric Chicken, lays eggs while you wait. Moss and Stoll, London Col. twice. This, 40, Sidney-st., Manchester. April 30, Pal., Sunderland (second return).

WANTED Known, TALBERTO (ineligible), of TALBERTO and DOUGLAS, Burlesque Acrobats, Vacant for Sketch or Revue; good feeder; many dialects spoken; just finished Panto. Thanks for many inquiries. Parted through Mr. Douglas being called up.

WANTED, May 14 and 21, JOHNNY FULLER, the Cat on the Wire. This week, The Grand, Clapham. Next, Empire, Grantham.

WANTED, April 30, May 7, 14, 28, by ENARDO BROS., Italian Equilibrista and Gymnast in mid-air, introducing original and sensational Ladder Trick. This, Hippodrome, Bishop Auckland.

4 DELEVINES 4
4 DELEVINES 4
4 DELEVINES 4

WANTED, May 7 and 14, and Whit week, May 7 and 14 and Whit week. Between Manchester and Burslem. Between Manchester and Burslem. This, Corporation, Chesterfield. Next, Hume Hippodrome, Manchester.

LES PLATAS, Spanish Acrobats and Tumbler. WANTED, May 7, 14, 21, through obliging Mr. Willmot. This, Hip, Belfast; next, Royal, Dublin. Wire for May 7.

WANTED, Monday, May 7, 14, 21, for North or Midland, ROYAL TOKIWA FAMILY, genuine Japanese artistes, introducing sensational feats and great screen by little Japanese comedian. Wire to K. TOKIWA, 39, Whitefield, Newark.

WANTED, May 7, later, CHARD'S TROUPE and Dog Wonder. Share or sal. Wire, Empire, Crumblin, Mon.

By courtesy of Sir George Alexander, the Union of the East and West is organising a special Avinyra (performance) in honour of the delegates of the Imperial War Conference on Friday next, at 5.15 p.m., at St. James's Theatre. The Indian Art and Dramatic Society will present two short plays in English—"The Hero and the Nymph," written by India's greatest poet, Kalidasa, about 500 A.D. The cast includes Miss Edith Goddard and Mr. William Stark.

Miss Irene Rooke and Mr. Randle Ayrton commence a tour of Sir J. M. Barrie's comedy, "Alice Sit by the Fire" at the Theatre Royal, Bolton, on May 7, following the recent successful revival of the popular comedy at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester. On June 18, they will also produce for the first time at the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, a new comedy by Jerome K. Jerome, entitled "The Cook."

In the Divorce Division on Thursday, Mrs. Lillian Barker prayed for a decree of restitution of conjugal rights against Mr. Harley Granville Barker. The suit was adjourned.

SHAKESPEARE'S BIRTHDAY.

The anniversary of the birth of our National Poet is devoted this year of many celebrations which usually attend it. At Stratford-on-Avon, where the Festival generally lasts over several weeks, no special revivals are being given, and, Sir Herbert Tree being far away, over the seas, His Majesty's Theatre has no memorial performances to mark the occasion. Devotees, however, were to be found both in London and elsewhere, and quite a number of celebrations were carried out with praiseworthy enthusiasm.

THE URBAN CLUB.

The members of the Urban Club held their fifty-eighth Shakespearean Festival dinner at Anderson's Hotel on Monday evening. Mr. W. H. Pratt, the hon. treasurer, occupied the chair and the vice-chairmen were Mr. C. E. Laurence and Mr. E. C. Fache, the hon. secretary. The special Club guests were Mrs. Charlotte C. Slopes and Mr. S. R. Littlewood, and those present also included Mr. and Mrs. Acton Bond.

The chairman, in proposing "The Memory of Shakespeare," dealt with that very important part of the poet's career which is associated with London, to which Shakespeare came in the year 1585 or 1586, and pointed out that as long as Shakespeare was in London the plays abounded in allusions to London and London life, and that from the moment he returned home Stratford replaced London in his thoughts, a coincidence he commended to the earnest notice of Baconians. He happily outlined Shakespearean tears of London with some character for guide—Falstaff, Richard III., Shallow, or Jack Cade, according to the pilgrim's mood of the moment.

Mr. J. P. Collins proposed the toast of "The Guests," which was seconded by Dr. Leftwich, who made reference to the after-life of Shakespeare's heroes and heroines. He doubted whether they all did live happy ever after, more particularly Benadick and Beatrice, Petruchio and Katharine.

Mrs. Slopes, in responding, dwelt on the women of Shakespeare, who were as a rule witty and wise, faithful to their husbands, loyal to their own sex, quick in intuition, rapid in initiative, independent in action, and brave beyond the courage of men. She had come to the conclusion that Shakespeare would not have been in the least surprised at what women had done in the present troublous times.

Mr. S. R. Littlewood also replied, and in the course of an amusing and witty speech, which he evidently did not intend should be taken too seriously by devoted Shakespeareans, made some daring speculations as to the impression that Shakespeare would make if he were able to come among them. His theory was that the poet was not specially fond of the theatre, but it was, he found, the only medium of communication with the public of his day. His kinship was not so much with the fashionable playwright of to-day as with the hard-working Fleet-street journalist.

The concluding toasts were "The Chairman," proposed by Mr. Patrick Gardiner, and "The Hon. Secretary," proposed by Mr. Lyell Samuel.

As usual at this annual celebration, there was an exceptionally attractive programme of music (with Mr. Joseph Batten at the piano) and recitations and songs being rendered by Mr. David Smith, Mrs. J. P. Collins, Mr. Harold Jenner, Mr. E. C. Fache gave an excellent style Scene 3 from Act 4 of "Love's Labour's Lost," and Miss Eve Acton (Mrs. Acton Bond) recited with much charm of expression a poem entitled "Shakespeare's Message," written for the occasion by Mr. R. T. Baines. The recitation was received with prolonged applause. The last verse was as follows:—

We glean this message from thy glowing page:
Though dark the sky above, a stout heart keep;
Put trust in God, however the foe may rage,
And death a harvest grim and vast may reap.

Thy brave, strong cry through all the land should go.
To every Englishman a battle-call:
"All things are ready if our minds be so;
You know your places—God be with you all!"

BRITISH EMPIRE SHAKESPEARE SOCIETY.

In the absence, through illness, of Dr. W. L. Courtney, Mr. J. T. Green took the chair at the Haymarket Theatre on Monday afternoon, when the British Empire Shakespeare Society celebrated the poet's birthday by inviting Mr. S. R. Littlewood to lecture to the latter part of the afternoon. H. H. Princes Marie Louise Schlegel-Holstein, the president of the society, distributed the prizes for essays and education gained by members during the past year.

Mr. Littlewood's lecture, already given before the Shakespeare Association at King's College on February 23, and reported in "The Era" at the time, was fully as much appreciated by the British Empire Shakespeare Society members. Those among the audience who heard it on the previous occasion could testify that the talk-lecture is too formal a term—gaining by repetition. It is so full of new light and revealing ideas that complete assimilation is impossible on one hearing.

In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Littlewood, Col. Sir Charles Wakefield referred in warm terms to the lecture, and further tribute was paid by Mr. Acton Bond (hon. general secretary to the Society) who in the course of his speech gave encouraging reports of the work of the Society, and made the gratifying announcement that Miss Ellen Terry had promised to come before long and talk to the members about Shakespeare's heroines.

An interesting incident in the present prize-giving was the award to a South African competitor, for the first time in the history of the Society—Miss Rosa Ehrlich. This, said Mr. Bond, showed that the love of Shakespeare is a chain to link the remotest parts of the Empire to the Motherland.

Mr. Littlewood, who proposed the vote of thanks to the chairman, took the opportunity to express the gratitude of lovers of the theatre for all that he has done this year to keep the flag of the higher drama aloft with great courage, and at the cost of personal sacrifice. Mr. Grein had

made an attempt to establish a repertory theatre at the Court, an enterprise to which we owe Mr. Harold Terry's clever play, "General Post," now running at the Haymarket. Our gratitude was also due to Mr. Grein for the delightful production of French classics, which have been carried on under all sorts of difficulties during the past winter.

Mr. J. W. Joyns seconded. At the conclusion of the distribution ceremony, Mr. Henry Arthur Jones moved a vote of thanks to the Princess, which was seconded by Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C.

The proceeding terminated with a hearty expression of gratitude to Mr. Frederick Harrison for the use of the Haymarket Theatre.

SHAKESPEARE HUT CELEBRATION.

The principal guests at an entertainment on Saturday evening at the Shakespeare Hut in Gower-street were soldiers, who had been organised by Lady Forbes-Robertson and Miss Edith Craig.

A severe cold, unfortunately, prevented Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson from making his promised appearance, but an excellent substitute was found in Mr. Acton Bond, who gave with good effect Othello's address to the Senate. Miss Ellen Terry, who was greeted with great cheering, chose the trial scene from "The Merchant of Venice," in which, as Portia, she once more exercised, as in bygone days, her wonderful charm of manner and delivery. A glowing eulogy of the poet and his work from Dr. J. Gollancz was followed by scenes from "Henry V.," wherein a juvenile actress, Fabia Drake, in the character of the King, gave a stirring delivery of the St. Crispin and Hounfleur speeches. An attractive feature of the evening was Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay's rendering of several Elizabethan ballads and the singing by Lady Maud Warrender of a triplet of Shakespeare songs.

THE "OLD VIC."

At the Royal Victoria Hall in the Waterloo-road a Shakespeare Festival began on Saturday with a performance of "Hamlet," unabridged, with Mr. Terence O'Brien in the title-role, Miss Mary Sumner as Ophelia, and Miss Sybil Thorndike as Gertrude. A Shakespeare matinee was given on Monday, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr. and Mrs. Matheson Lang, Miss Gertrude Elliott (Lady Forbes-Robertson), Mr. Ben Webster, Miss Lillian Braithwaite, and other well-known players acted a miscellaneous programme of scenes from Shakespeare; and in the evening "Twelfth Night" was played by the repertory company under Mr. Ben Greet.

THE LYCEUM CLUB.

Lady Muir Mackenzie, presiding on Monday evening over a Shakespeare dinner held at the Lyceum Club, Piccadilly, remarked that one sign of grace in the Germans was that they loved our Shakespeare, though they did not seem to have profited by him. Professor Gollancz, speaking of Shakespeare and the Entente, said that an association had been formed in France in honour of Shakespeare under most influential auspices.

PARIS CELEBRATIONS.

Shakespeare Day was celebrated in Paris on Monday afternoon by a magnificent representation of "The Merchant of Venice," the first produced in public by the Shakespeare Society. The incidental music, taken from the works of English composers of the sixteenth century, was much admired. Among the spectators were the British and American Ambassadors.

At the conclusion of the first act M. Germer the actor, made a speech greeting the entry of the United States in the war on the side of the defenders of liberty and democracies.

A bust of Shakespeare was then crowned by the members of the company, and afterwards Mme. Geniat de Max recited two poems eulogising Great Britain and America. The successful proceedings terminated with the singing of the "Marseillaise" and "God Save the King," which were enthusiastically applauded.

In commemoration of Shakespeare's birthday a chaplet and wreaths of bay with clusters of red roses have been placed by the London Shakespeare League in Westminster Abbey, Southwark Cathedral, and at the Barbican Memorial in Shoreditch Church. "To the honoured memory of William Shakespeare."

MISS HELEN MAY'S SCHOOL. Miss Helen May and her pupils had no reason for disappointment with the result of their week's campaign at the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute. Their performances have drawn big audiences—proof of the interest aroused among the "Suburb's" art lovers. Miss May's own contributions to the programme at the finishing show on Saturday A.V. were well chosen to exhibit both the richness of her temperament and the perfection of her technique. She possesses that gift invaluable to the interpretative dancer—the power of creating "atmosphere" and suggesting character. At either end of the gamut of expression were, for instance, the dance of the Red Imp, captivating in its half-human Puckishness, and the proud, shy

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1917.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR.
BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Fio Dixie, pictures.
HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Six Artillery Lads, Kitty Douglas, Marlin, Reg Faze, Decars and Tomato, Bruce and Iris Clare, pictures, Petro and Leon Trio.
IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Marie Kendall, Tom Burton, W. B. Baby, Helen Moray, Kito and Assistant, Pathe's Gazette, Three Merrills.
NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Femina, Jeanette, Cassie Walmer, Lois Conn, Eight Rosettes, Duncan and Braque, Stone and Brady, Pathe's Gazette, Les Bastiens.
PAISLEY RINK VARIETY PALACE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Lewis and Lansky, Archie Morton, Melrose and Bratt, pictures.
LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.
BRITON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Manny and Roberts, The Bill Girls, Daisy Wood, Watson and Lester, The Krakos, Billy Wells and Clair Twins, Phil Kaufman, Bioscope, Clara Federer.
CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—Bransby Williams, Charles Metcote Trio, Charles R. Whittle, Two Crows, Cavendish Four, These Two Nondescripts, France and Stewart, Laura Novea, Lucy Brennan, Bioscope.
EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12).—The Two Bobs, Mary Mayfren and Co. in "The House of the Five Lanterns," Florrie Forde, Frank and Vesta, Anna Martens, Five Keith Proctors, Harry Hasto, Carlton Trio, Bioscope, Ethel Newman.
EUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—Ching Wuk, Jack Plessants, The Five Whitekeys, Jack Whiteford, Romane and Dainton, Violet King, Bessie Wynne, Dolly Lee, Bioscope.
LONDON PAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30).—"Cheerio," Bratt, Forde, Williams, The Real McKays, Little Cursus.
METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—Mr. Herbert Jay presents George Gregory and Co. in "Physical Culture," Elise Craven and Lily Penn-Leighton, Harry Brown, Francis and Alfred, Neil Gow, Two Tomboys, Dorothy Storm, Bioscope.
OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—Marie Lloyd, Two Bobs, John Lester and Co., Four Vagabonds, Welton and Odette, Circe, The Martinecks, Alva York, Dorothy Arnold, The Alphas, Derra De Moroda, Jackson and Jolly.
SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12).—Jack Plessants, Lottie Lennox, Arthur Rigby and Co. in "Clara the Cleaner," Joe and Willy, Countess of Rubadi, Tambo and Tambo, Larkun Bros, Roy Mex, Bioscope.
TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 12).—Two Rascales and Jacobsen, Gilbert Heron and Co. in "In the Dark," Roy Dove, Shogun and Ryder, Vera Hicks, Two Lillies, Alec Regan, Margaret, Bioscope.
WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1).—These Four Kids, Athas and Collins, Frederic Culpeit, Joe and Betty Bimms, Belle Sylvia, Alcide Capitaine, Walter Walters, The Randies, Bernard, Bioscope.
WATFORD (rehearsal, 1).—S. Bransgrove's Co. in "Sweet Lavender."
LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.
BALHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Low Lake's Co. in "Love Letters" and "My Pal Jerry," Harry Singer, Phyllis Venner, Alec Kennedy, Dolly Meuze, Bioscope, Armstrong and Howarth, I. Van Laron, Eleanor Wilson, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles.
CAMBERWELL EMPRESS (rehearsal, 4).—Lilla Zillwood's Co. in "The Broken Rosary."
CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Billy Merson, Beth Tate, Joe Elvin and Co. in "Cheering Him Up," Rose Cammy, Lee Ephraim and Co., "Meaneat Mah on Earth," The Pasaqualis, The Westbrooks, Bioscope.
CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 4).—Wm. Louis Payne's Co. in "Bracelets," De Maest, Lilian Byrne, Daisy James, Beth Tate, Ella Shields, Julia Henry Ensemble, Bioscope, Four Cleffs.
CROYDON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 4).—Marie Lloyd, Versatile Four, Wilson Hall, Great Wiclad, Coverdale's Dots, Lily Langtry, Dottie Carliello, Adam Tomlinson, Grosie, Bioscope, Victor and George.
HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—T. E. Dunville, Evie Greese, Daisy James, Mayne and Tate, Sutcliffe Family, Goodfellow and Gregson, Burr and Hope, Tom E. Hughes, Billy Howard, Bioscope.
KILBURN EMPRESS (rehearsal, 4).—Kitty Francis and Co., "And I Got It," J. W. Rickaby, Albert Whelan, T. E. Dunville, Liane d'Eve, Billy Simpson, Harry Ford, Eight Harmony Girls, Burr and House, Hanbury and Schofield in "His Last Night Out," Bioscope.
KILBURN EMPRESS (rehearsal, 4).—Seven Nobodies, Phil Ray Farr and Farland, Garadini, Anna Dorothy, De Maest, S. W. Wyndham, Bioscope, Coram, Hector and Lorette.
LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Day's revue, "Hip, Hip, Hooray!" Cissie Lupino, the Langleys, Claude Lester, Belancourt, Bioscope.
PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11.30).—Ernie Mayne, Harry Weldon, Fred Barnes, Joe Elvin and Co. in "Cheering Him Up," Dorinos, M. Duprez, Bioscope, Webb and Hedges, Ada Crossley, Will Evans, Lorna and Toots Pounds.
POPULAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Fred Kitchen's revue, "What's He Doing?" Minnie Muir, Nellie Wallace, Colley and Scott, Phil Parsons, Bioscope.
PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—John Lawson and Co. in "The Dowry," Cooper, Micklethorn, Farr and Farland, Goodfellow and Gregson, S. W. Wyndham, Pinkie Whyte, Katie Keith, Connie

Howard, Phyllis Dailey and Co. in "Long Liz," Bioscope.
ROTHEMITH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—The McNaughtons, Morny Cash, Carlton, Phil Parsons, Nora Delany, Folly Bask, The Bartle Quartette, Aimee Roberts, Bioscope.
SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 4).—Reeves' revue, "High Explosives," Lucile Benard, Chas. Coham, Mart and Pep, Bioscope.
WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Walter Bentley's revue "Odds On," Florence Yamen, Henry Zill, Celeste.
WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Day's revue "Special Mixture," Tom E. Hood, The Phil Kallis Trio, Zetta Mor, Bioscope.
MACNAUGHTEN TOUR.
BLACKBURN.—Pictures, Sisters Brook, Jack Gerrard, Williams and Parker, "Heave-O."
BRADFORD.—Pictures, Jessie Wilton, Sam Hilton, Rancy's Dogs, Grossman and Winters, Three Pals, Fred Kink and Co.
BURNLEY.—Pictures, Charles Hatch, Kitty Osmond, and company as booked.
CARLISLE.—Pictures, Mona Vivian, Ally Benson, Glad and I. Noland and Kiddie, Billy Rogers, Belmore and Wells, Nelson and Maynard, Le Max.
HALIFAX.—Pictures, Jimmie Pullin, Wynne and Winter, Madeline yvonne Yrio, Taktio, Paul Freeman, Three Jees, "Heart of a Jew."
HUDDERSFIELD.—Pictures, Ray Royce, Campbell and Brady, "Wait and See."
LEICESTER.—Pictures, Otto Law and Company in "The Very Thing," and company as booked.
SOUTHAMPTON.—Pictures, Elliott Savonas, E. M. Spate, Rosie Jaxon, Les Neslos, Jackie and Le Sine, Niblo and Doris, Simoesa San.
SOUTHPORT.—Pictures, Florence Cooper, Six Musical Longshoremen, James Reid, Yazo, Beattie Browning.
WARRINGTON.—Pictures, Costa and George, "The Frenchwoman," Three Walons, Clifford Morgan, J. P. Ling, Chris. Van Bern.
Rehearsal at Warrington, 11.
Rehearsal at all other halls at 12.
EMPIRE EMPRESS.
BELFAST EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Waters and Morris, Aubrey Cooper, Saxons, Girls, Bi-Bi-Bi, Mario, Miyako Troupe, Lancashire Lads, Ina Lorrain.
BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Jack Silvano, Winifred Ward, Lawrence Wright Ensemble.
BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1).—Hayes and Doree, Bobbie Thornton, J. H. Scotland.
BIRMINGHAM PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Jenny Costello, D'Elroy, Kitty Jay.
BRADFORD ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 1).—Arthur P. Ward, Herbert Le Martine, Harry Herbert, Nelson and Good Trio.
CARDIFF EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Rich Hayes, Shawlene, Duncan's Colliers, "A Regular Business Man," Vera Wootton.
CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Mark and Note, Nellie Sylvester, James Bendon.
DUBLIN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Goldman Ltd.," Ina Lorrain, St. Clair, Lena and Joan.
EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Wm. Colman and Co., Jerry and Co., Lily Bryon.
FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Four Royal Scots, Tom E. Finglass, Chas. Kasrac, Martini Trio.
GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—Wilfred Bernard, Gus Garrick, Caron Troupe.
GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Dubin, Dauntion Shaw Troupe, Reg Bolton.
HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Yelson Trio, James Fawn, and company as booked.
LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Frascova, Tom Clare, Nixon Grey.
LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"Zig-Zag."
NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Rinadido, Gilday and Fox, The Romanesca Quartette.
NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Naughton and Gold, Sisters Reeve, Cooper and Lait.
NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Dainty Doris, Bart and Bart, Les Videos, The Royal Merry Four.
SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—A. D. Robbins, Pierce and Roslyn, Eve yn and Clayton, Topsy Lee, Kirby and Hudson, Ben Albert, Pope Stamper.
STOKE NEWINGTON ALEXANDRA THEATRE (rehearsal, 11.30).—Belle and Austin.
STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Geo. Newburn, Herbert Cave, Hayman and Franklin.
SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Sisters Tremper, F. V. St. Clair, The Diving Belles, The Hayden Wood Trio, Ferguson and Mack, May Hopkins, Jack Lane.
SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Wal Langtry, Belle Davis and company, Evelyn Taylor.
WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Fortunes," The Mafuziang Troupe, Kitchinsky Troupe.
SPRILL TOUR.
ARDWICK GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Barts Trio, the Harlequinades, Boganny's Comedians, Molly Butler, Bioscope.
BRISTOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Mme. Renee, Mulaney Brothers, Chatham Empire (rehearsal, 12.30).—Four Swifts, Lennie Hill, Fyne and Hurley, Irene Pearse, Bioscope.
CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Roxie La Roca, R. Knowles, Mabel Mann, May Sherrard, Trumpet-Major Wix, Lockhart's Elephants, Bioscope.
HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Mooney and Holbein, Hymack, Syd Sydne, Marcelle Molray, Montes and Welma, Jason and Montgomery's "Reveland," Bioscope.
LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—"Half-Past Eight."
LONDON ALHAMBRA.—"The Bing Girls Are There."
LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).—Miss Mary Anderson and company in "Pygmalion and Galatea," Sam Barton, Mary Leighton, Leslie Elliott, Bioscope.
MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10).—"The Kodak Girl," Bioscope.
NEW MIDDLESEX (rehearsal, 12).—"Nights of Gladness," "The Major's Reflection," Bioscope.
SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"The Ketos, the Mongadors, Thorpe and Coe, Lola Patey, De Busse, Nelson Jackson, Poppy Ginnett, Bioscope.
WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"The Bing Boys Are Here."
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BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Sara Reece, "All Women," and company as booked.
BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Betty Washington, The Magicks, Fred Curran, Alfred Lester and Co. in "A Restaurant Episode," Marie Loftus, Frank L. Gregory Troupe, &c.
GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—Alice Craven, Payne and Hillard, Sam Stern, Marguerite Scialtel and Co. in "A Lonely Soldier," Sammy Shields, Grock and Partner, Scotch Kelly, &c.
LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Dellino, Dorothy Varick, "Introduce Me."
LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Ray Holey, Miles Stavordale Quintette, James Stewart, Leon Rogee, York and Leonard in "In Lingerie," G. B. McVinn, Kamakuras, &c.
MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11).—"Follow the Flag."
MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—"Chickens."
NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Great Maurice, Gillin, Tokiwa Troupe, &c.
PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Ascot's Dancers, Ash and Almandale, Arthur Bourchier and Co. in "The Fourth of August," Dan Whitley, Harlequin Wonders, &c.
SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Cossack."
SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Toreador."
SOUTHEAST HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"Little Miss Mustard," &c.
WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—"Extra Special."
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PORTLAND MASONIC HALL.—Maise Thorne.
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SALISBURY PALACE.—Charlie Bell and company, Irish Strollers, Mlle. Regal, George Harris.
WIMBORNER PALACE.—Weir and Bond, Walter Howard.
WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—The Great Raymond and company, Little Zola, Gabby Revette, Ibez, Mlle. Silvea, Stidder, Milnes, &c.
YEovil PALACE.—Peggy Pryde, Doris Duquesne.
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MISCELLANEOUS.
ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Champion, Mary Law, Walker's Juveniles, Atlas and Yulcan, Hill, Cherry and Hill, Sharp's Tromboneers, Nora Althes, Hippodrome Pictorial Gazette.
ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALL (rehearsal, 2.30).—Sisters Pink and Eddie, Violet Clara Sketch Co. Ford and Croft, Three Colquhouns, Sisters Claven, Lucie Prineles, Florence Froissant, Alice Donia, Lily Ackroyd, Montague Biggs, Ruby Leyton, Edith Wright, Mildred House, Violet Oram, Edith Burgess, Two Pals and a Piano.
ASTON HIPPODROME.—Hanway Bros. "Frisks and Fancies," Marcel de Vere, Freddie Foss.
BATH (rehearsal, 1).—"Pass on, Please," revue, Palfie Loftus, Bioscope, &c.
BIRMINGHAM GAIETY.—Kaba Quartette, Maro Luo, May Locke, Nipon Bros., Bioscope, and company booked.
CANNOCK HIPPODROME.—Elliman's "Dramatic Season."
COVENTRY HIPPODROME.—Tom Foy and Co., Hamlyn and Mac, Benedetti Bros., Jenny Hartley, Edna Lyall.
DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE (rehearsal, 1).—"All Aboard."
EDINBURGH, PRINGLE'S PALACE.—Maxwell and Saw, May Milby.
EDINBURGH THEATRE ROYAL (rehearsal at 12).—"Bachelors' revue."
FELIXSTOWE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 2).—Clarke and King, Stephens and Runtin.
GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Co. in "Emeralds," King and Benson, Harvey Brinton, Haidee De Rance, Eddie Marlyn, Enid Cruikshank, Jaffa.
GOOLE COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—Matt Melrose's revue, "Pekin to Paris."
ISLINGTON (rehearsal, 12.30).—Five Leytons, Rayburn Trio, Hewitt, Olive Temple, Bioscope, &c.
KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—J. Bannister Howard's Co., "The Belle of New York."
LEITH (EDINBURGH) ALHAMBRA.—Henry Carlton, "One Night Only," Wee Dorothy, Mlle. Chevalier and Capt. Riego, Withy Grove, and company as booked.
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"ERA" FINANCIAL SECTION.

BY OUR FINANCIAL EXPERT.

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Very few shares are changing hands at the present moment, and all quotations are practically only "nominal." Rumours of every kind affecting the welfare of all amusement houses are current, resulting in a preponderant number of sellers and a practically complete absence of buyers. It is difficult to predict what may be the immediate course of events, but investors with spare capital would be well advised to pick up some of the bargains at present offering, as immediately the present troubles are over, and "peace" is declared, the well-managed, sound amusement companies must appreciate in market value.

Enemy Holdings in British Companies.

A director of one of our important amusement companies writes me asking, "What is the proper course to be adopted in the case of a transfer of shares in his company being presented for registration into the name of an acknowledged alien enemy. Legally, as the Companies Acts are at present framed, he has no right to refuse the transfer." There is one course open, notwithstanding the legal position. Shareholders have it in their power to remedy this defect and assist their directors. At present many companies are holding their annual shareholders' meetings. A shareholder should give notice to the secretary that he proposes at the meeting to submit a resolution on the following lines: "That no transfer of shares be accepted or passed which would have the effect of making any subject of an enemy State a shareholder of this company until such time as this resolution be rescinded by a general meeting of shareholders." Such action may be what is known as "ultra vires," but an enemy subject contesting the point would stand a poor chance of over-

riding the shareholders' sentiments. I would also suggest that shareholders should make further use of the opportunity and deal at the same time and in the same way with enemy employees. Any member voicing such views may feel assured of the hearty support of his company's shareholders.

Premium Bonds.

Reference was made in these columns recently at some length to the question of the next War Loan issue, and to the probability of the Government adopting the principle of Premium Bonds. Details were given of the pending issue of the French "Credit Foncier" Premium Bonds in Paris, and as confirming the view that such an issue would be extremely popular in this country, we reprint here the report cabled from Paris regarding this subscription. The offer of the 5½ per Cent. Credit Foncier Premium Bonds amounting to a total of £24,000,000 was subscribed five times over on the first day of the issue. The bonds, nominally of the face value of 300 francs (say, £12), were issued at 285 francs. The great attraction for the investor is the opportunity of participating in six drawings every year, which entitle 300 bonds to participate in prizes amounting to £99,000. The first prize at each of these drawings being £20,000, and the smallest £20. The rush to subscribe was such that as early as 6 a.m. on the day of issue the queue outside the head office of the Credit Foncier must have numbered not less than 5,000 investors, and as the day advanced the waiting crowd overflowed into the adjoining streets; and, notwithstanding the fact that the banks close at 3 o'clock, upwards of 4,000 people were waiting at 4.30 to take their turn to subscribe. There is no doubt that this

will be the form in which the next War Loan will be issued by the Government, notwithstanding the opposition that is being voiced by certain opponents to the project on the grounds that all forms of lottery are against the principles of dignified finance. A draft scheme prepared by a committee of influential men in the financial world, supported by representatives of the London Chamber of Commerce, was presented and discussed at a private meeting in the House of Commons under the presidency of Mr. Hume Williams, K.C. It is understood that this draft project will be submitted to Parliament for discussion at an early date. The principal factor opponents to this method of finance do not recognise is that 80 per cent. of such issues is held by the small investor or wage-earner, as is proved by the list of subscribers to Continental premium bonds, and these are the very class that do not usually subscribe or save. The facts as they exist must be recognised and provided for. To-day in England the shopkeeper has to provide luxuries for munition workers, while the middle and higher classes are economising. This proves that no ordinary methods will teach them to save, but a scheme combining safety and an element of speculation is the only means that will prove effective. Consequently, it is with pleasure we record that the special committee of the City Corporation have reported in favour of the Government issuing a Thrift Lottery or Premium Bond Loan.

Provincial Cinematograph Theatres, Ltd.
The balance-sheet for the past year's working, just issued, shows a net profit for the year of £38,900, as against £46,000 for 1915, and £51,200 for 1916. The directors propose to pay a further 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares, making 10 per cent. for the year, as against 15 per cent. paid for the previous year. The meeting of shareholders will be held at the Holborn Restaurant on the 30th inst.

G. A.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"FRANK" (Liverpool).—Many thanks for the correction. The quotation was omitted through a printer's error. You will notice it is restored in this week's columns.

"E. G. D." (Willesden).—In reply to your inquiry as to what is the meaning of "nominal" quotation, the explanation is that it is the last quotation at which dealings were effected, and does not necessarily mean the price at which future transactions can be effected. The price is given only as a base for negotiation.

"MRS. H." (Ipswich).—The balance-sheet has not yet been published. The meet-

ings are usually held in March, but the reply given by the secretary in answer to inquiries is that owing to the depleted staff of the auditors the accounts have not yet been completely examined. The directors are waiting the report from the auditors before sending out the balance-sheet and fixing the date for the annual shareholders' meeting. There is nothing in this to cause uneasiness.

"A WIFE BY INSTALLMENTS."

Musical Farce, in One Act, Written by J. Sherman, Music Arranged by A. Bodamsen, Produced at the Holborn Empire on Thursday, April 19.
Mr. J. Sherman, the Anglo-American Hebrew comedian, made his first appearance on the English stage in the musical farce, "A Wife by Installments," at the Holborn Empire on Thursday afternoon last. In this amusing little piece, which has many funny lines, Mr. Sherman appears as Sam, a dancing master, in love with his cousin, Bella. Bella's father, Backchinsky, however, has made other arrangements regarding his daughter's future husband, a certain Reuben, whom the old man imagines has money by the sackful, being the chosen one. Reuben on his part, one gathers, thinks Backchinsky is a man of wealth, hence his desire to wed Bella. Both are eventually outwitted by the impetuous but wily Sam, who goes off and marries Bella with the old man's money.

Mr. Joseph Sherman acts adroitly and amusingly as Sam, and Miss Gladys Vast sings and acts with much charm as Bella, a tuneful telephone duet being a very attractive contribution. Mr. H. Fineberg, Mr. S. Bergman, and Miss Molly Hughes do excellently in other parts.

The Concert Artists' Benevolent Association will hold their annual general meeting at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday evening, May 6. According to the annual report, owing to the reduction in the number of "At Homes" held last season, the Benevolent Fund collections show a decrease, but on the other hand a considerable saving was effected in expenses and the substantial sum of £180 5s. 2d. is carried forward to the credit of the general account. After careful consideration, the committee have decided to pay the subscriptions of members serving in His Majesty's Forces out of the Benevolent Fund, and the members will be requested to formally approve of their action in this respect at the general meeting. After meeting all claims made upon it, the Benevolent Fund has been well maintained, the balance carried forward being £1,909 1s. 6d., as against £1,985 10s. 10d. the previous year.

"GRANDDAD."

One-act Playlet, Written by Annie Flora Steel. Produced at the Chelsea Palace on Friday, April 20.
Mrs. Pettigrew, Miss Clara Greet, Mrs. Hawkins, Miss Frances Wetherall, Selina, Miss Nancy Roberts, Granddad, Mr. Stanley Lathbury, Sailorman, Mr. Keith J. Shepherd, Tummus, Master Teddy Craig.
In aid of the Naval training ships in the Thames, and to provide prizes for Naval history in the Chelsea School, a matinee was given at the Chelsea Palace, kindly lent by the directors, on Friday last. A novelty of the afternoon was the production of a one-act play, written by the well-known novelist, Mrs. Annie Flora Steel, dealing with Our Navy. It is a tense, well-knit little story of "those who go down to the sea in ships."

Dozing by the fire in the parlour of his daughter, Mrs. Pettigrew's house is a Naval veteran, very proud of his medals. Almost in his dotage, the old sailor-hero has in the past composed verses enlavouring his superior officers and the glorious achievements of the Navy. Whilst reciting to his daughter's friends, he forgets the words, and Mrs. Pettigrew calls in her son (a delightfully precocious boy) to prompt the veteran. A niece and her baby, who had been shipwrecked through the Germans torpedoing the vessel they were on, are brought home by a sailor, and Granddad attentively listens to the vivid narration of this hero who tells of the wonderful work our Navy is doing. Then, rising from his chair at, as he imagines, Lord Nelson's call, the old man stands at attention, and as the curtain descends answers the "Last Call."

Mr. Ernest Theisger, who was responsible for the production, must be congratulated on the excellence of the staging, and the play was very favourably received. Miss Clara Greet was noteworthy in a capital cast for her fine acting as the nervous, excitable Mrs. Pettigrew; Miss Frances Wetherall contributed a clever study of the complex Mrs. Hawkins; Miss Nancy Roberts was pleasing and attractive as Selina; Mr. Stanley Lathbury very realistically showed the querulousness of the garrulous old Granddad; Mr. Keith J. Shepherd vividly described the narrative as the Sailorman; and Master Teddy Craig acted very naturally as Mrs. Pettigrew's precocious boy, "Tummus."

Contributing to the general programme were Mr. Harry Lauder, Mr. Mark Ham-bour, Mr. Charles Hawtrey, Miss Margaret Forde, Whitney Mockridge, and several other artistes.

Tom Hulme, the comedian, is in the Royal Infirmary (St. Agnes Ward), Leicester, suffering from pneumonia. He would be pleased to see old friends who are in the neighbourhood.

The President and Council of the Royal Horticultural Society are organising a concert to be held on Saturday afternoon next at the Queen's Hall, Langham-place, in aid of the fund to assist gardeners and horticulturists generally in the territory overrun by the enemy. Mr. Gervase Elwes has promised to sing, and Miss Daisy Kennedy to play, and in conjunction with the Strolling Players Amateur Orchestra Society a good concert may be confidently anticipated.

"THE ENEMY."

Sketch by J. A. R. Wylie, and Produced for the First Time in the London District at the Alexandra, Stoke Newington, on Monday, April 16.

Originally produced at the New Theatre, Cambridge, this sketch is obviously intended as a warning against permitting the untrained alien to remain in our midst, and it should find favour among popular audiences. Hans Hanger, an unlearned, but seemingly a harmless, German subject, is married to an English woman. He is discharged by his employers for obvious reasons. Until now he and his wife have lived quite happily, but his expressed desire to return to Germany, and take her with him, upsets her. She persuades him to abandon his projects, but all entreaties fail, when Oscar Wech, an enemy agent in the employ of the English Secret Service, enters with stolen plans which show the positions and particulars of British warships, and Hanger willingly undertakes to deliver them to the German Government. Wech has been under observation for some time as a suspect, but, possessing a forged passport to Holland, Hanger, passing as a Swiss, might have reached Germany with the stolen papers. Wech, who has rooms in Hanger's house, leaves, with the object of keeping the detectives on his track, so that Hanger would make good his escape. Jean, his wife, determined to unmask her husband's villainy, wrests the papers from him, and calls for help. A detective enters, with the object of taking Hanger to an internment camp, but on hearing of the secret papers, informs him that "it will probably be a firing squad," instead of a camp. There is excellent material in the sketch, which will go much better when played a few more times.

Miss Katherine Harrowby is excellent as the patriotic wife, and Mr. A. E. Mayne is very successful in the difficult portrayal of Hans Hanger. The Oscar Wech of Mr. Beresford Innes is deftly handled, whilst a pleasant relief is provided by Mrs. Henry Gascoigne as the landlady, Mrs. Higgins; and the detective is played by Mr. John Mason. The piece was excellently received by an appreciative audience.

Mr. Alex. Maclean, one of whose delightful moonlight studies exhibited at the Society of British Artists Galleries was purchased by the Princess Royal the other day, was formerly on the stage, and toured his own companies in romantic drama. Latterly he has been associated with Lady Kinloch's painted furniture industry as art adviser.

At the Music Club's reception at the Grafton Galleries last Saturday evening, a splendid programme of Russian music was performed by Russian artistes, all well known in London. Mme. Zola Roosevelt, Mr. Vladimir Rosing, and Mr. Boris Bornoff sang songs and duets by Monstorgsky, Ushakovsky, Gretchaninov, Dargomyski, Rimsky-Korsakov, and Vasilenko; and Mr. Benno Moiseiwitsch played a most interesting group of pianoforte pieces, including Selim Palmgren's "The Sea," and "Bird-song," and Scriabin's Etude in D minor. Mr. Daniel Melsa, who had also promised, was unable to come, being laid low by an attack of "the enemy disease"—so announced Mr. Alfred Kalich, the Club's chairman.

CURRENT MARKET QUOTATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL THEATRE, MUSIC HALL AND CINEMA COMPANIES' SHARES.

The following Quotations, made up to Tuesday morning in each week, are supplied to us by Messrs. Keith, MacAllister and Co., Ltd., 53a, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.

Alhambra (London) £1 Ord. ... 1-1 1/2	London Th. of Var. £1 Ord. ... 2/8-3/6
4th Deb. (1912) ... 80-85	£1 7 1/2 Cum. Pref. ... 4-5
Assoc. Prov. Pic. Houses £1 Ord. ... 3-3 1/2	Manchester Hippo. £5 Ord. ... 5 1/2-5 3/4
£1 5 1/2 Non-Cum. Pref. ... 3 1/2-3 3/4	5 1/2 1st Mort. Deb. ... 65-75
B.B. Pictures £1 10 1/2 Cum. Pref. ... 8 1/2-9 1/2	Manchester Pal. of Var. £1 Ord. ... 1 1/2-1 3/4
Biograph Ths. 10s. "B" Ord. ... 1 1/2-2 1/2	5 1/2 1st Mort. Deb. ... 90-95
Birmingham Th. Royal £1 Ord. ... 1 1/2-2 1/2	Manchester Th. Royal £10 Ord. ... 7 1/2-8 1/4
5 1/2 1st Mort. Deb. ... 60-71	Moss' Empires £5 Ord. ... 3 1/2-3 3/4
Coliseum £1 Ord. ... 1 1/2-2 1/2	National Elec. Th. 10s. Ord. ... 3 1/2-3 3/4
£1 8 1/2 Non-Cum. Pref. ... 18 1/2-19 1/2	Oxford £5 Ord. ... 2 1/2-2 3/4
5 1/2 1st Mort. Deb. ... 64-68	Palace Theatre 10s. Ord. (9s. nd.) ... 9/16-11/16
Croydon Hip. 6 1/2 1st Mort. Deb. ... 49-51	Piccadilly Cir. Cin. Th. £1 Ord. ... 1-1 1/4
Empire £1 Ord. (10s. pd.) ... 3 1/2-4 1/2	Picture Th. Pim. Trust £10 7 1/2% ... 10-10 1/4
£1 Ord. (10s. pd.) ... 3 1/2-4 1/2	Provi. Cin. Th. £1 Ord. ... 1-1 1/4
Gaiety Theatre £1 Ord. ... 2-2 1/2	£1 7 1/2% "A" Pref. ... 10/6-20/6
Glasgow Alhambra £1 Ord. ... 2 1/2-3 1/2	£1 7 1/2% "B" Pref. ... 16/0-17/0
Pavilion £1 Ord. ... 2 1/2-3 1/2	Robert Arthur Th. Co. 5 1/2 1st ... 72-74
Hackney & Shagn Bush £5 Ord. ... 4-4 1/2	Mort. Deb. ... 1-1 1/4
£5 5 1/2 Cum. Pref. ... 3 1/2-3 3/4	Sheffield & Dis. Cin. Th. 10s. Ord. ... 1-1 1/4
5 1/2 1st Mort. Deb. ... 60-70	Th. Royal (Drury Lane) £1 Ord. ... 1-1 1/4
Howard & Wyndham £5 Ord. ... 4 1/2-4 3/4	(10s. pd.) ... 2 1/2-3 1/4
£5 5 1/2 Cum. Pref. ... 3 1/2-3 3/4	United Theatres £5 Ord. ... 2 1/2-3 1/4
Leicester Pal. Th. £5 Ord. ... 1 1/2-1 3/4	£5 5 1/2 Cum. Pref. ... 2 1/2-3 1/4
London Pav. £5 Ord. ... 1 1/2-1 3/4	Victoria Palace 10s. Ord. ... 1-1 1/4
£5 5 1/2 Cum. Pref. ... 3 1/2-3 3/4	(Subject to market fluctuations).

APRIL 24, 1917.

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Important Announcement.**THE GRAND THEATRE****BROADWAY, PETERBOROUGH,**

Has been taken over by the Proprietors of the

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A SPECIALLY-SELECTED AND HIGH-CLASS VAUDEVILLE PROGRAMME.

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"DOLF ASTOR BAND"

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APPLY AS ABOVE.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Sunday Show.

Mr. Arthur Boucher gives a new turn to an old-fashioned question when he advocates that theatres should be allowed to follow the example of the picture houses and open regularly on Sundays. In a letter to the "Times," Mr. Boucher writes: "By keeping theatres open for two performances on Sunday as well as the two performances on Saturday, they could quite easily be closed altogether on the Monday. Matinees on other days of the week could also be abolished. This would free a great deal of labour connected with the theatres from Monday morning till Saturday noon."

Mr. C. B. Cochran takes up the parable in the "Daily Mail." "I would not give up Monday performances, as Mr. Boucher suggests, in return for Sunday freedom," he writes, "but I would cheerfully give up matinees. This would set free our theatre staffs for National Service work in the daytime. Under present arrangements the public is thrown into the arms of the cinema and the Sunday League, which practically together form a subsidised theatre, in competition with the equally deserving or more deserving theatre, which is not subsidised, but taxed and embarrassed to the death."

There is, however, another aspect of the question, apart from the legal one. It is that of the actor himself. I am inclined to think that the profession as a whole would resist the attempt to introduce systematic Sunday opening. The variety artists at a mass meeting some years ago were unanimous in passing a resolution against the proposal. It was thought that the innovation would lead to a seven-day week at six days' pay, and I have no reason to believe that there has been any change in their opinions.

Sarah Bernhardt.

Grave anxiety is caused by the news regarding Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, who underwent an operation at Mount Sinai Hospital last week. It was at first stated that the distinguished actress had rallied from the operation, but a Reuter cable from New York stated that, in reply to a question as to whether she was leaving the hospital, one of the doctors attending Mme. Bernhardt said on Sunday evening that the case was hopeless. Monday's bulletin, however, stated that, after a poor day, Mme. Bernhardt passed a comfortable night, and that her condition had slightly improved.

Sir Herbert Tree referred to Mme. Bernhardt in a speech which he made at a benefit performance at the Metropolitan Opera House last week. "I have a message for you," he said, "from one who is very dear to us all, and whose absence we regret—Sarah Bernhardt. I called on her at the Mount Sinai Hospital and asked her if I might give the public a message from her. 'Tell them,' she began, and then she kissed me. Ladies and gentlemen, I throw you the kiss of the greatest woman I have ever known."

Sir J. Forbes-Robertson's War Fund Plans.
The gratifying success of Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson's revival of "The Passing of the Third Floor Back" at the Playhouse has induced him to continue the run of Mr. Jerome's play for the benefit of another war fund. As Mr. Frank Curzon and Miss Gladys Cooper need the Playhouse after Saturday, April 28, Sir Johnston will transfer his season to the Queen's Theatre, opening there the following Monday, April 30.

The society which is to benefit the British Women's Hospital Fund, in aid of the National Fund for Nurses. The distinguished actor is again gladly giving his services, and is supported by most of the same cast. As Miss Gertrude Elliott and Miss Laura Cowie are wanted elsewhere, their places will be filled respectively by Miss Maud Buchanan and Miss Marie Hemmingsway.

Royalty at the Playhouse.
The Playhouse has been honoured by two Royal visits during the past week to see "The Passing of the Third Floor Back." The Queen, Princess Mary, Prince Henry, and Prince Albert were present at the matinee on Wednesday; and on Saturday H.M. Queen Alexandra, accompanied by Princess Royal, Princess Maud, and Lord Howe, witnessed the play. The distinguished guests were received by Viscountess Cowdry, Miss Nina Bouché, and Miss Fellows Robinson, who represented the committee; and H. M. Thorburn, who represented Mr. Frank Curzon and Miss Gladys Cooper, who have lent the theatre free of rent.

Aristocratic Parson Playwright.
Quite a noble army of aristocratic folk booked seats for the production of the new play, "Muddle," at the Queen's yesterday in aid of the Theatrical Ladies' Guild. The reason was, I found, that the play's author, Mr. A. M. Dale, is not only a cleric of high importance, but is also the brother-in-law of a Royal Live Bearer.

The £150 Revue.
Charles Blake Cochran's new revue production, "£150," is, according to present arrangement, due at the Ambassadors next Monday. May that revue, which is said to have for its mise-en-scene the exact amount of its title, run at least as long as the £100 "Hamlet."

Opera at the Garrick.
The Carl Rosa Opera season at the Garrick opens on Thursday, May 3, when "Tales of Hoffman" will be given, both afternoon and evening. "Carmen" will be the attraction for the second evening, and Saturday's matinee will be devoted to "Madame Butterfly," with "Faust" at night. It is hoped to revive in the course of the season one or two native operas of which too little has been heard in recent times.

The "Ghosts" Revival.
Mr. William Archer has revised his translation of Ibsen's "Ghosts" for Mr. Victor Lewis, who produces it at the Kingsway Theatre on Saturday evening. In deciding upon the revival Mr. Lewis has been much influenced by the remembrance that his brother, the late Lewis Waller, often expressed the opinion that the part of "Oswald" was "one of the most interesting that he had ever played," and that was in 1893, at the Athenaeum Hall, in Tottenham Court-road. The character will this time be played by Mr. Basil Sydney; Miss Darragh being the Mrs. Alving; Mr. Berle Thomas, Pastor Manders; Mr. Charles Groves, Jacob Gregstrand; and Miss Helen Temple, Regina.

The Martin Harvey Company.

During his visit to Birmingham last week Mr. Martin Harvey addressed a meeting at the University on the necessity for a Shakespeare Memorial National Theatre. One meatless day throughout the kingdom would do it, he said.

Mrs. Martin Harvey made one of her strikingly earnest Red Cross appeals to the vast audience on Friday night at the Birmingham Royal, and the collection subsequently taken totalled £52.

Mr. Marley Manners's New Play.

A new play, entitled "Out There," by Marley Manners, has just been produced in America. The action of the play takes place in London in the autumn of 1915, and behind the British lines in France. A little slum girl is the heroine, a part played by Miss Laurette Taylor. Other important characters are of the typical East End type. In a special military hospital scene will be seen a number of convalescent Irish, Canadian, Scotch, English, and New Zealand soldiers.

Revue at Kennington.

I learn that, by special arrangement with Mr. Wilkie Bard, Mr. R. Kaye is staging the entire original Palladium production of "The Whirl of the Town" at the Kennington Theatre during next week. Revue-goers in Kennington and neighbourhood will thus have the opportunity of witnessing a sparkling and gorgeous production.

"Cheep" Postponed.

Following the accepted rule that "No revue should ever go unpostponed," the production of "Cheep" at the Vaudeville, due yesterday afternoon, was suddenly postponed till to-morrow afternoon.

A Remarkable Record.

There was a full-dress rehearsal of "Cheep" on Monday before a houseful of wounded soldiers. It was then seen that this latest Revue au Grattan is full of good material, especially for Miss Lee White.

"Bubbly," Not "Bubbles."

When I told Mr. André Charlot that "Bubbles," the name he first selected for his next Comedy Theatre revue, belongs to one of the most often played of one-act pieces, he asked me to try to trace the author, namely, C. S. Fawcett, so long an actor with Heilshed at the old Gaiety. Charlot would fain have traced for the title, but neither of us could trace Fawcett in time. He (A. C.) decided to call that revue "Bubbly." He tells me he hopes to present the Comedy production about next Tuesday.

Miss Annie Saker's Presentation.

The War Shrine presented by Miss Annie Saker to St. Columba's, Kingsland Road, was dedicated on Sunday after morning service. This handsome War Shrine has been set up in Lyndoch-street. Miss Saker performed the unveiling ceremony, and placed some beautiful flowers on the base of the Shrine, while the Vicar, the Rev. J. A. Le Couteur, after an impressive address, dedicated it.

Russian Plays.

Among the artists engaged to appear in the series of Russian plays to be produced during the Russian Exhibition held at the Grafton Galleries throughout May are Miss Helen Haye, Mrs. Monckton-Hoffe, Miss Hilda Moore, Mr. Lyall Swete, Mr. Henry Vizard, Mr. W. G. Fay, Mr. Ernest Tiger, and Mr. Michael Sherbrooke. The best plays include "The Distiller," a comedy by Tolstoy, translated by L. A. Maude, and "The Wedding," a farce by Anton Chekhov, translated by Julius West. Performances will be given daily at 5.30 in a reproduction of a Russian travelling theatre, and the plays will be produced by Mr. Nigel Playfair.

Entertainments at the Front.

Miss Lena Ashwell visited Birmingham last Thursday in promotion of her scheme for providing entertainments at the Front. Mr. Martin Harvey was among those who contributed to a programme arranged for the occasion at the Theatre Royal.

"Hamlet" £100 All At.

Sir Herbert Irving used to tell me that when he first played "Hamlet" at the Lyceum the entire production cost exactly £100. And that "Hamlet" revival ran 200 nights! This is still the record run for that play.

Revue at His Majesty's.

The above announcement will no doubt come somewhat as a shock to playgoers, but there is no expectation of any such innovation at our premier theatre, for the revue referred to is only for one day, in connection with the Albert Hall Fair in aid of St. Dunstan's. It is a special Canadian matinee, and will be given on Friday, May 11, at 2.30, under the patronage of the King and Queen and other distinguished people.

The theatre has been generously lent by Sir Herbert Tree and Mr. Oscar Asche, and the entertainment will consist of an entirely new revue, entitled "Hello! Canada!" which then has its first public performance. Ladies recruited from Canadians now in this country will provide a beauty chorus which managers might well envy, and Mr. Nelson Keys and Mr. Frederic Norton are creating the two leading male characters. The performance is being organised by Mrs. John Hope.

"The Shrew" by Ladies.

Quite an interesting series of performances, chiefly by members of the Sweet Six, will be started with "The Taming of the Shrew" at the Margaret Morris Theatre, King's-road, Chelsea, to-morrow, under the direction of Mrs de Liana. This enterprising young lady tells me that she is a kind of Ally of ours, inasmuch as she is half a Roumanian.

The Rehearsal Club.

The annual meeting of the Rehearsal Club will take place at the St. James's Theatre (by kind permission of Sir George Alexander) on Friday, May 4, at 3 o'clock. Princess Christian (president of the club) has graciously promised to be present. The chair will be taken by Mr. Gerald du Maurier, and among the speakers are the Archbishop of London, Sir George Alexander, Mr. A. E. George, Comde Clayton Calhoun, R.N.V.R., Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Madge Tiberghie, Miss Mabel Russell, Miss Moya Mannering, Miss Haidée Wright, and Miss Phyllis Broughton. Cards for the meeting can be had by enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope to the hon. treasurer, Mrs. Mayne, 101, Queen's Gate, S.W. 7.

Opera on Merseyside.

The Harrison Frewin Grand Opera Company on Saturday next conclude their eighteen weeks' season on Merseyside, and are due to open their tour on Monday next at the Grand, Swansea. Their actual departure is to be made on "occasion" by thousands of Liverpool and Birkenhead opera-lovers.

Opera Singers as Munitionists.

The matinee to the wounded soldiers at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, on Wednesday took the form of a miscellaneous concert by members of the Harrison Frewin Opera Company, and a wholly delightful entertainment was the result. Mr. Frewin, who played the accompaniment for the artists, announced at the commencement that they had intended giving one act from each of two operas, but that had been rendered impossible owing to the inability of some members of the company to get leave from the munition work on which they were engaged during the day.

In moving a vote of thanks to the artists, Councillor Kelly expressed regret that they were obliged to disappoint the audience with regard to the acts from the operas. During their sixteen weeks' stay in Liverpool the company had played in the wounded heroes than they had, and there was scarcely a day or night on which they did not go down to some hospital or other to entertain the wounded.

Record Breaks.

Councillor W. W. Kelly continues to break records in various directions. Last week, on the occasion of the fifty-fourth visit of his famous play, "A Royal Divorce," to the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, the business done surpassed all expectations. Advantage of the occasion was taken by Mr. Kelly's admirers to make him a little present, which took the form of a miniature billiard rest, in recognition of the genial "W. W.'s" prowess at the game.

In Behalf of Actors' Orphans.

During Mr. Bromley Challenor's present tour of "When Knights Were Bold" Miss Marjorie Bellairs, who plays Rowena so effectively, has greatly interested herself in the Actors' Orphanage Fund. By the sale of Mr. Challenor's and her own postcards Miss Bellairs has been able to provide the Orphanage with quite a comfortable monthly income, and at some of the towns visited the sale has eclipsed all previous records.

"A Kiss for Cinderella" on Tour.

Mr. Percy Hutchinson is bringing his tour with "A Kiss for Cinderella" to an end at his own theatres, Southampton and York. Ever since last September the piece has been playing to receipts averaging over £1,000 to £1,400 per week. The play has been received everywhere with the greatest enthusiasm. On the return visits to Glasgow and Edinburgh crowded houses again showed their great appreciation of Sir J. W. Barrie's delightful fantasy, and repeated calls had to be taken by Mr. Hutchinson and Miss Trevelyan.

The York Theatre Royal Re-opened.

Mr. Percy Hutchinson last week reopened the Theatre Royal, York, with his own and Mr. Herbert Jay's great success, "General Post." Both play and company had a most enthusiastic reception, probably the greatest in the history of the theatre. The author, Mr. J. E. Harold Terry, was present, and during the evening made a graceful speech, which was received with genuine enthusiasm. Mr. Hutchinson has had the theatre entirely redecorated, re-furnished, and re-appointed, and it is now one of the finest theatres in the provinces. It has been decided to keep it open during the summer months.

Death of Pete Gardner.

I regret to learn that Mr. Pete Gardner died at Whipple Cross Infirmary, Leytonstone, on Saturday from heart failure. Mr. Gardner will be best remembered as the Poite Luratic in "The Belle of New York," as he has played that part in Mr. Bannister Howard's companies off and on for the last sixteen years. His last appearance was at the Bero, Stratford, on February 5, when he was taken ill during the performance. He will be buried at West Ham Cemetery on Saturday next.

It is proposed to erect a suitable stone over the deceased comedian's grave, and if any old friends would like to subscribe, Mr. Charles Ross, who is at present playing the "Luratic," will be glad to receive subscriptions. Mr. Ross's address this week is Theatre Royal, Guildford; next week, Empire, Kingston.

Lighting Economy.

Mr. Jos. B. Williams, secretary of the Entertainments Industry Committee, has received the following acknowledgment from the Coal Mines Department of the Board of Trade:—"I am directed by the Controller of Coal Mines to acknowledge your letter of April 5, and to say that he greatly appreciates the efforts which are being put forth in the direction of economy in the consumption of fuel for lighting purposes in places of public entertainment. It, at a later date, you can supply any particulars showing how your efforts are progressing the Controller will be most pleased to receive them.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant (signed), H. F. Carrill."

Actor and Priest.

Mr. Frederic James, who has for many years been an actor and a member of the council of the A.A., was recently summoned on the ground that he was a person amenable to the provision of Section 15 of the Recruited Forces Act, 1915, and was, therefore, liable to be called up for active service. It having been pointed out to the War Office that Mr. James was a priest in Holy Orders, the summons was withdrawn, it being clearly established that Mr. James was a bishop of the Old Catholic Church, having been properly ordained and consecrated, and came within the exceptions provided for in the Military Service Act, and was not liable to be called up. Mr. E. Bowen Rowlands, counsel instructed by Messrs. John H. Mole and Son, appeared for Mr. James.

Westward Ho!

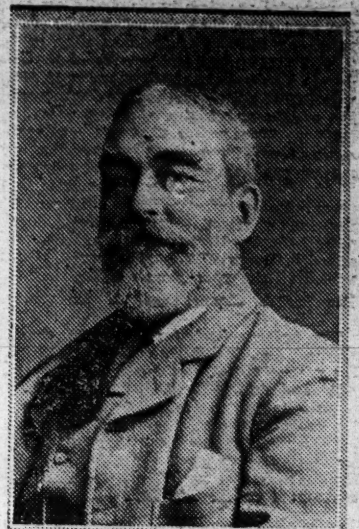
Theatreland will take a step further Westward when Mr. Alfred Butt builds his new theatre. The site of the new building is in Warwick-place, opposite Regent-park, and about fifty yards from Regent-street. It backs on to Godez-square.

Sons of Shakespeare's Day.

A remarkable domestic coincidence has befallen one of our London correspondents. Mr. Cecil A. Freeman, of 30, Hallswell-road, Golders Green. On April 23, on the second anniversary of the birth of twin boys, his wife was delivered of a son—the third born on St. George's Day during the three years of war. THE DRUID.

SIR FRANCIS BURNAND.

The news of the death of Sir Francis Cowley Burnand, who passed away at his residence at Ramsgate on Saturday last, has been received with regret by a wide circle of friends. Descended on his father's side from an old Savoyard family, and on his mother's side from Mrs. Cowley, the famous dramatic authoress, he was educated at Eton and Cambridge, where he founded the College's A.D.C. in 1855. His first farce, written when he was only fifteen, was played privately at Eton and publicly at Worthing. The dramatic works which stand to his credit number nearly 200. His first production on the public stage was a burlesque entitled "Dido," produced at the St. James's Theatre in 1862. Comedies and burlesques continued after that to flow from his busy pen.



(Photo, Ellis and Walery.)
THE LATE SIR F. C. BURNAND.

pen. The best known is "Black-Eyed Susan," which had a run of 222 nights. "Ixion" was staged at the Royalty in 1863 with enormous success, with Ada Clendish as Venus.

He was editor of "Punch" for 25 years, his successor being Sir Owen Seaman. The funeral takes place to-day at St. Augustine's Abbey Church, Ramsgate. An appreciation of Sir F. C. Burnand by Mr. W. A. Locker will be found on our leader page.

THE LATE MR. HARRY PAULTON.

The present generation of playgoers knows little of Mr. Henry Paulton, whose death at the age of 75 is announced. In the seventies and eighties he was, however, a leading member of the profession, and as a comedian appeared in many of the most popular productions of the day. He was born at Wolverhampton in March, 1842, and made his first appearance on the stage in that town before he was twenty years of age. After gaining experience at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, and in various English provincial towns, he obtained an engagement at the Surrey Theatre in 1867. Later he was at the Birmingham Theatre Royal and the Prince of Wales's, Liverpool, but returning to London in 1870 he joined Mrs. Swanborough's company at the Little Strand Theatre, appearing with great success in a series of plays of various kinds. In 1872 he went to the Alhambra, appearing in



(Photo C. Ireland, Manchester.)
THE LATE HARRY PAULTON.

"Le Roi Carotte," "The Black Crook," "La Belle Helene," and other pieces. In 1883 he played Nick Vedder in "Rip Van Winkle" at the Comedy. He succeeded W. J. Hill as the Baile in "Les Cloches de Corneville" in 1878, and made a notable hit as Peter Amos Dunn in "Niobe," of which he was part author, produced at the Strand in 1892. It ran for nearly 600 performances. His long experience also included old English comedy and Shakespeare, appearing as Sully in "A Road to Ruin," and Touchstone in "As You Like It," and the First Gravedigger in "Hamlet," and Grumio in Mr. Martin Harvey's revival of "The Taming of the Shrew" in the provinces. He took minor parts in the gala performance of "David Garrick" in 1911, and in the "all-star" revival of "The Silver King" in 1914, both revivals of Mr. Paulton was the first actor to be granted a pension from King George's Actors' Pension Fund, 1912.

A Requiem Mass was held at St. Thomas's Church, Wandsworth, on Sunday. The body was interred in the family grave at Morden Cemetery on Monday, the mourners including Agnes Paulton (daughter), Mrs. Edward Paulton, Mr. Wilfred Paulton, Mr. and Mrs. H. Paulton (Wolverhampton), Mrs. H. Mountney, Mr. George Shelton, Mr. Charles Garth, Mr. Charles Petherick, Mr. D. Ritton Smith. Flowers and wreaths were received from Agnes Paulton, Chumlie (grandchild), Mr. and Mrs. Edward Paulton (Jaggle Storey), Mr. and Mrs. Paulton, Jun. (Kate Connaught), Ted, Constance, Wilfred and Edgar (grandchildren), Miss Mary Beale, the Green Room Club, the Touchstone Club, Miss Beatrice Lamb (associated with Harry Paulton in "Niobe") and others.

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THE PROFESSION WITH THE COLOURS.

Publishing portraits of six Sullivan of Paddington, officers and privates in the British Army, the "Sydney Mail" adds the interesting information that they are grandsons of the late Barry Sullivan. Two of the six have been killed, Capt. A. Sullivan in France, and Lance-Corporal T. Sullivan in Gallipoli.

Henri Davo, conjuror, has been transferred from 156th Brigade, R.F.A., and his new address may be had on application to the Editor of "The Era." "We have a few concerts out here," he writes, "and I keep in practice by giving some conjuring shows to amuse the boys."

Genner Robert Ashby has arrived safely in China after an eventful voyage of three months. He would be pleased to hear from friends; and old scripts of plays would be very welcome. Communications sent to the Editor of "The Era" will be duly forwarded.

At Southwark Tribunal, Mr. R. C. McCarty, the well-known scenic artist, applied for the exemption of two expert assistants, both passed for labour abroad (B.2). He said he had been painting scenery for Drury Lane and other theatres for over twenty years, and these were the only two expert assistants he had left out of eight in pre-war times. Asked what were their wages, he replied that they received £5 a week each, the same salary as they had before the war. Art and music were always badly paid. He was unable to get men over military age to replace them—indeed, he could not even get labourers. The men were granted two months' exemption each.

Mr. Burrell, who was for several years acting manager at the Dalston Theatre, and has taken part in the Somme operations, has been invalided out of the Army. It is within the bounds of probability that before long he may resume his old position at the Dalston Theatre.

Friends—and their name is legion—of the popular young South African tenor, Colour-Sergeant Edward Williams, will be glad to learn he is progressing favourably at Richmond (S. African Section) Hospital. Williams, at the beginning of hostilities, threw over a lucrative engagement and served under Capt. Reeves in the S.A. Horse. He was all through the Dutch rebellion, and also in German S. African campaign. Later he was "somewhere in France," and was invalided after strenuous fighting. Colour-Sergeant Ed. Williams will be found in Ward H.1 of the Richmond Hospital, and fellow-artists might like to look in and cheer him up a bit. An "Era" representative was informed on Saturday he had gone to witness a football match, and that he is progressing splendidly. We wish him a speedy recovery.

We record with regret the death at the Front of Captain A. K. F. J. James, well known on the London stage, and in America as Arthur Craven, the actor and writer of lyrics. Mr. Craven appeared in fairly

prominent parts in several London productions. He was the author of the play, "The Last of the English." On the outbreak of war he joined the Artists' Rifles, and shortly after received his commission in the Buffs. He was appointed Assistant Provost-Marshal in October, 1915, and served at the front from that time till his death.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Miss Mary Rorke (Mrs. St. Aubyn), whose only son has been killed. Captain St. Aubyn was twenty-nine years of age, and



(Photo, Porter, Ventnor.)
THE LATE CAPT. ST. AUBYN.

was a writer and playwright and an actor, of promise. He joined the Army at the outbreak of the war, and acted as interpreter in Rouen for one year, afterwards being posted to the King's Royal Rifles. He leaves a young widow.

Private John Walsh (Mauritis, the Handcuff King) and his comrades recently gave another very successful concert in camp in France. During his last item Mauritis accidentally slipped from the stage and injured his head. He is fortunately not very badly hurt, and hopes to be out of hospital again shortly.

An excellent concert was given at the Y.M.C.A. of the Royal Flying Corps, Turnhouse, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the 17th inst. The organisers and the artists must be highly complimented on the success achieved.

Private Lionel P. Prosser, whilst carrying rations to the front line of trenches recently in the big push, caught a hole to get cover from shell fire, and on doing so fell into some barbed wire that was buried, badly cutting his hands and left leg. He is, however, progressing favourably, and his present address is: O.1 Ward, 25th Hospital, B.E.F., where he would be pleased to hear from any old friends.

JOGGIN' ALONG THE HIGHWAY.

The New Song which the
"BOYS" are singing in France.

Words BY Music
ARTHUR ANDERSON. HAROLD SAMUEL

Chorus: — poco aggr.

When you're

jog, jog, jog-gin' a - long the white road. With your

luck all up - side down. Well, you

don't much care if you're on the right road When you're

bound for No. — where town. I'm

just as hap - py in the by - ways My ways.

where - so - ev - er I may be For there's

no friend wait - ing a - long the high - ways For a

Vag-a-bond like me.

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**What America, Africa and Australia
said yesterday England says to-day.**

AFRICAN PRESS NOTICE.

A new turn was added to the Tivoli programme when Miss Rose Lee Ivy made her appearance as queen of song. She is a versatile artiste, and will sing you operatic music in prima donna style, or divert you with negro slave melody, passing from grave to light, from pleasing to severe, with surprising facility.

MELBOURNE PRESS NOTICE.

In its welcome to Rose Lee Ivy, the Californian Peach, the big audience at the Melrose Theatre on Saturday night did that star performer a greater honour than has ever been accorded to a visiting artiste.

AMERICAN PRESS NOTICE.

Rose Lee Ivy was accorded a marvellous reception, and richly deserved it, for nothing better has been heard on the vaudeville stage for many months.

"ENCORE," April 19.

Miss Rose Lee Ivy, who is making her first appearance in London, then appeared. Her turn is varied in the extreme, for after singing an operatic number she does two low comedy songs, and then a dramatic song. This last received much applause. Miss Ivy is a clever entertainer, and will go far.



[Photo by Hana.]

"THE ERA," April 18.

Vocal talent is assembled in strong force this week at the Victoria Palace, where on Monday evening, before an enthusiastic audience, Rose Lee Ivy, who is a welcome visitor from far-off California, made her first appearance on the British variety stage. From the warmth of her reception it will be a long way from her last in these islands, for it was not until she had contributed five selections from her extensive and agreeably varied repertoire, that she was permitted to retire from the footlights. Rose Lee Ivy combines the lightsome humour of the comedienne with genuine vocal ability, a feature usually absent in these days.

"EVENING STANDARD,"

April 17.

Among the artistes appearing at the Victoria Palace this week is Miss Rose Lee Ivy, an American operatic comedienne, who combines humour with the voice of a prima donna.

"REFEREE," April 22.

AN ACQUISITION FROM AMERICA.

A very cordial welcome was extended to the American artiste, Miss Rose Lee Ivy, who made her London debut at the Victoria Palace last week, and she should prove a decided acquisition at a time when our variety theatres badly need artistes blessed with some degree of that personality, without which an artiste rarely, if ever, takes high rank in his or her branch of business. Miss Ivy has good looks, an excellent voice, and some capital COMEDY MATERIAL to recommend her, notably the songs entitled: "Marrying for Looks" and "S' Too High."

"STAGE," April 19.

An interesting feature of the current bill at the Victoria Palace is the first appearance in England of Miss Rose Lee Ivy, a clever and versatile operatic comedienne hailing from California. Miss Ivy, in addition to possessing a voice of much flexibility and power, which she displays to excellent advantage in her opening number, has also a keen fund of humour, which is finely evident in two of her items, while there is an underlying vein of pathos in her patriotic song.

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"TO-NIGHT'S THE NIGHT."

This week: Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

"POTASH AND PERLMUTTER."

With JAMES R. WATERS and NICHOLAS ADAMS.

This week: Hippodrome, Newcastle.

Next week: Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

"IN THE TRENCHES."

(Enormously successful comedy sketch by Ralph Roberts.)

With HARRY BUSS, etc.

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Twice nightly. Matinée, Wednesday.
Rehearsal, 12 o'clock.

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Manager, Mr. William J. Brown.
Twice nightly. Matinée, Wednesday.
Rehearsal, 12 o'clock.

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Twice nightly. Rehearsal, 1 o'clock.

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Twice nightly. Matinée, Thursday.
Rehearsal, 12 o'clock.

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SPECIAL CONSTABULARY MATINEE.

One of the chief items at a tip-top matinee held at the Prince's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, the 17th inst., in aid of the Metropolitan Special Constabulary Motor Ambulance Fund, was the first performance of a new one-act play by Miss Gertrude Jennings, entitled

"NO SERVANTS."

Entertaining as the little piece was, it can hardly be classed with Miss Jennings' happiest works. It reflects in a way that is unusual in these times upon the woman of to-day of high education when faced with a domestic problem. Her ladyship's servants have been in the habit of giving notice once a month, but their mistress has come to regard this as a little eccentricity on their part that can be cheerfully disregarded, consequently when, on a very important day (the man she loves and in tends shall propose is coming to lunch) she finds them all on the point of departure, one to become a policeman, another a munition worker, a third a sailor, and so on, her helpless ladyship is in despair. She can say "Potato" in seven languages, but has not the remotest idea how to cook a fish, fowl, and pastry "in the raw" are to her as unknown and as terrifying as Greek roots are to the cook. Nevertheless, desiring to pose as "the perfect housewife," she makes a valiant attempt to cope with the luncheon. Her efforts are disastrous, and she and her affianced husband (brought to proposal point with infinite skill) are preparing to lunch on bread and cheese and kisses, when back come the half-dozen servants, ready to return to "service," because they have missed their train!

The idea does not show the originality of thought that we expect from Miss Jennings, neither does the dialogue display the humour or the power of observation that have characterised other work from her pen, but it is a pleasant, amusing trifle, and received invaluable help from Miss Lilian Braithwaite as the charmingly impractical lady, and from Mr. Otto Stuart as the considerate and courteous lover, Miss Mary Clare, Miss Margaret Murray, Miss Mary Buchanan, and Miss Margaret Yarde were also in the cast.

An amusing incident of the afternoon was the putting up to auction of Mr. Seymour Hicks. He was knocked down for £10,000 to Commander Stuart, of E. Division, and it was then discovered that Mr. Hicks had a paper in his pocket on which the said amount, less £200, had been inscribed, representing the sum realised by the Metropolitan Special Constabulary by their recent entertainments in aid of the Motor Ambulance Fund, so that Commander Stuart was only £200 out of pocket by his purchase.

Others who enlivened the afternoon were Mr. George Robey, in splendid form and vociferously applauded; Miss Ethel Levey, in a song contrasting "old" and "modern" song and dance, done by Miss Levey, her best and most artistic manner; Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Huttin Britton in a scene from "The Taming of the Shrew"; the Gaiety Theatre party, including Miss Avice Kelham, Mr. Leslie Henson, Mr. Davy Burnaby, Mr. Henri Leoni, and Mr. Austin Melford (with chorus); Miss Violet Lorraine, Little Miss Tomlin, Miss Elaine Terries, Little Miss Doreen O'Leary, Miss Nellie Perry, and Messrs. Ben Osborne, Harry Hall, George Mozart, W. H. Berry, Peter Bernard, and Lieutenant Rice.

The entertainment was under the stage direction of the Division's Assistant Commander, Edward Lamb, and realised the sum of £260, the price of two motor ambulances, bringing the proud record of the M.S.C. up to twenty-one.

PANTOMIME PRODUCER'S CLAIM.

At West London County Court, before Sir William Seife, on Wednesday, an action was brought against J. B. Mulholland, proprietor of the King's, Hammersmith, by T. O. Traynor, known as Medley Barrett, who claimed damages for wrongful dismissal. Last December, when "Robinson Crusoe" was produced at the King's, Mr. Mulholland entered into an agreement with the plaintiff to engage him as stage manager at £2 a week for seven weeks.

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A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! I am saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement." Mr. WILL EVANS, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it." Mr. PHIL RAY.—"Not being fortunate enough to receive a sample of your excellent Grease Paints, I purchased some for myself, and after a lengthy trial I have no hesitation in saying that, from my point of view, it is immeasurably superior to any foreign makes."



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1917.

SHAKESPEARE IN WAR-TIME.

THE revival of "Hamlet" which Mr. H. B. IRVING is presenting at the Savoy Theatre to-morrow night synchronises very aptly with the week in which we are commemorating the anniversary of WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE's birth. Had this commemoration been confined, as at one time it appeared likely to be confined, to lectures, newspaper articles and dinner-table dissertations, we could scarcely have claimed to be paying more than secondary homage to the greatest poet ever produced by this or any other country in the world. Even as it is, with but one West-End production of SHAKESPEARE—and that the first since Mr. MARTIN HARVEY's memorable season at His Majesty's Theatre eleven months ago—it cannot be said that our national appreciation of the Bard of Avon manifests itself in any very pronounced practical form. But let us be grateful for small mercies, and doubly grateful to those managers who, having the courage of their ideals, embark on such perilous financial enterprises as the production of the great poet's tragedies, histories, or comedies in these days of horror and frivolity.

For SHAKESPEARE holds out a by no means tempting bait nowadays to the financial speculator. Sometimes, true, he is produced with a view to pecuniary profit; but more often—and there is more truth in this than many realise—the incentive to production is either the satisfaction of a purely personal, purely artistic desire on the part of the manager; or the satisfaction of a purely altruistic impulse, which moves the entrepreneur to give the public what he thinks is good for them. In such circumstances, and with an unsubsidised theatre, we can hardly expect the production of SHAKESPEARE plays to be anything but sporadic. It's money that makes the business world go round, and until some magician discovers a means of turning SHAKESPEARE's plays into a tempting financial proposition, they will for the most part be left severely alone. Of the appearance of such a magician we do not despair. It is our belief that since SHAKESPEARE's plays contain, quite apart from their poetry, the most exciting drama and the most intriguing romance, people will flock to them if they are produced as they should be produced. That is to say, if they are produced as drama and not as poetry. If they are produced without that awe of the author's reputation and that respect for the conventions of tradition which now spell such certain failure. If they are treated just as any other play is treated—without a scrap of false reverence. If they are not over-staged or over-acted—and this last is a most important point. "Actors' act so strenuously in SHAKESPEARE," a lady of discernment remarked the other day, "that I often find it quite impossible to find out what they are talking about." A manager of experience who, never having read SHAKESPEARE or seen one of his plays performed, suddenly received a MS. of "Othello," and decided to produce it, would almost certainly put up a show to which all London would flock as it has never flocked before.

That SHAKESPEARE is essentially a popular dramatist may be realised by anyone who will visit the "Old Vic." and take note of the attitude of the "three-penny" audience (towards the productions which are given there. For keenness, for enthusiasm, for dramatic perception, this "three-penny" public is unsurpassable, and it will be a great pity if the "Old Vic." which is doing such magnificent work, should be compelled to close its doors for lack of the £7,000 which, as explained in another column, it now urgently requires. The "Old Vic." has not discovered how to make SHAKESPEARE pay—pay, that is to say, as West End revues and musical comedies pay; but it has proved up to the hilt that there is an enormous SHAKESPEARE public among the poorer classes, and it is, moreover, swelling the numbers of that public every day. The spade work now in progress in the Waterloo Road will one day have its effect. And though the material gain may never be reaped by MISS LILLIAN BAYLIS and MR. BEN GREET, they must find some satisfaction in the knowledge that their names will one day be acclaimed in every dramatic history for the valuable assistance they have afforded in the great work of knocking SHAKESPEARE off his pedestal.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

"Miss Gladys Cooper's first venture is likely to prove a big financial scoop," declares a writer of dramatic gossip. Hence the name—Gladys Scooper.

Is the new Comedy revue called "Bubbles" because it is simply bursting with good things?

Our hearty condolences to the actress who informed her rich, strict uncle the other day that she is now appearing in a little bit of fluff.

Mr. Otho Stuart is going to produce a new play entitled "Hush." Let us hope he'll get plenty of "Hush" money.

Miss Genée's shoes were put up for auction on Saturday. Of course, they were soled.

By the way, while "Bubbles" is being produced in London, "Hullo, Bubbles!" is being produced in the provinces. What about "Hullo, Hamlet!" and "Hullo, Ghosts!" for go-ahead provincial managers?

"Have you seen that play with a name like a sneeze?" asked the fair young thing at the charity auction. And it was quite a time before he discovered that she was talking of the show at His Majesty's.

Miss Lee White, who played in every performance of "Som" is chief star in the new Vaudeville revue. This theatre may soon be nicknamed The White House.

I see that in one paper they have been mis-advertising "Cheep" as "Sheep." On account of the re-ewe lambs in it?

One of the characters in "Fygion and Galatea" at the Coliseum is being played by the leading lady's son. They ought to put out bills announcing the appearance of Mary and her son.

TOUCHSTONE.

SOME "GHOSTS" STORIES.

By J. T. CREIN.

PIONEERING IBSEN'S PLAY INTO POPULARITY.

ON the evening of the first performance of "Ghosts" at the Royalty Theatre it was intimated to me that there would probably be a question in Parliament next day, followed by a prosecution under Lord Campbell's Act—an extremely pleasant prospect for a young man who was then earning his living in the City as a foreign correspondence clerk at the munificent remuneration of £180 per annum! And then the morning papers appeared, headed by the "Daily Telegraph," outpouring such a flood of abuse on Ibsen in general and myself in particular that no murderer could have imagined a condemnation to equal it.

As a result, picture me sitting in the office of a solicitor in Queen Victoria Street, seeking guidance as to my future course of action in case of prosecution.

Curiously enough, however, the question in Parliament was never asked. Mr. Moy Thomas, the dramatic critic of the "Daily News," who was much against my enterprise while sympathetically inclined towards me personally, informed me that the Home Office had requested the member who was to put the question to desist, as nothing was known in Government circles concerning "Ghosts," and such a question might put the Government in an embarrassing position. As a matter of fact, Downing Street was afraid to make us the laughing stock of Europe, since "Ghosts" appeared in the repertory of every foreign country without protest.

Mr. Archer's "Anthology."

Meanwhile, the abuse continued to such an extent that William Archer, ever ready in the cause of Ibsen, compiled what he called a lexicon of opprobria, and the reading of it is still both edifying and significant. There are samples of language in it which Billingsgate would be proud to incorporate!

Personally, I was ostracised in many quarters, and I remember well that at a certain meeting of journalists on the occasion of the opening of Olympia, a colleague—Mr. Will Chapman, of the "Times"—rose from his seat and said:

"I hear a gentleman of the name of Green, the representative of Dutch papers, is to be invited. Is this the Mr. Green who produced 'Ghosts'? If so, you must choose between his room and my company."

I was not invited. And when I was present at certain functions, for years my name was struck out by sub-editors, although occasionally I had seen it in the copy of the reporters.

Performance No. 2.

In 1892, when the waters had become a little calmed, there was in the literary world a desire to see another performance of "Ghosts," but no theatre could be obtained, and so I hired the little Athenaeum Hall, in the Tottenham Court Road, which held about 300 with difficulty, and where there was a stage as big as a bedstead, with only one exit. Mrs. Alving was again interpreted by Mrs. Theodore Wright (who, as I predicted, had become famous), and our Oswald was the greatest romantic actor of the English stage—Lewis Waller. I may well say that on that occasion all literary London thronged to the little hall, and there were hundreds who could not gain admission.

Still, efforts to obtain the licence were fruitless, and remained so till 1914, in the spring of which year, at the request of a club of progressive women in Knightsbridge, I engineered a Sunday performance of "Ghosts," in which Miss Bessie Hutton was an admirable Mrs. Alving and Mr. Leon Quartermaine made the great hit of his career as Oswald.

Licence Granted!

At that memorable performance one of the readers of plays—my old and enlightened comrade, Mr. Ernest Bendall—was present, and he was so enthusiastic about the play and its effect that he said he would help me to obtain the licence by a strong recommendation to the Lord Chamberlain. Within a fortnight from that day I received a summons to go to the Lord Chamberlain's office, with the result that the Controller informed me that it had been decided to grant the licence for public performance.

Of such importance was this event in the history of our stage that I thought it ought to be duly celebrated in a commemorative performance. I asked Mr. Frederick Harrison for the loan of the Haymarket Theatre, which he very kindly accorded. I appealed to King Haakon of Norway for his patronage, which he graciously granted. I re-engaged the same actors who had played at the Court Theatre. And to an overflowing house, full of enthusiasm, "Ghosts" was played, for the first time under the reign of the official hall-mark.

For over a quarter of a century England had enjoyed "the proud distinction," as Mr. Archer says, "of being the one country in the world where 'Ghosts' might not be acted." Of this "proud distinction" we could no longer boast.

On that day I felt like one who understands the full significance of the saying, *per aspera ad astra*; and had it not been for the war, which changed the order of things, I should have sent "Ghosts" from John o' Groats to Land's End for the enlightenment of the country.

J. T. CREIN

MURRAY CARSON AS I KNEW HIM.

By LOUIS N. PARKER.

A PERSONAL APPRECIATION.

I FIRST made his acquaintance on February 18, 1892, on the occasion of the production of one of my earliest plays, "The Bohemians," in which he played the part of a young English officer. It was, I suppose, one of the most disastrous first nights on record, and I quite expected that none of the actors concerned would ever want to set eyes on me again.

That, however, was not Murray Carson's way. While the theatre was still vibrating to the boos of a sparse but leather-junged audience, he invited me to supper at his house, and we sat into the small hours of the night devising a new play.

This was "David," produced on November 7 in the same year at the Garrick Theatre, under the management of Miss Estelle Barney. We followed this with "Gudgeons," at Terry's Theatre, almost exactly a year later. Then came "The Blue Boar," produced by Edward Terry in Manchester in 1894, and on my own theatre on March 23, 1895. On May 16, 1896, Sir Charles Wyndham produced our "Rosemary" at the Criterion. E. H. Sothern did "Change Alley" at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, on September 8, 1897. On September 1, 1898, Miss Olga Nethersole produced "The Termagant" at Her (now His) Majesty's Theatre. November 10 of the same year saw "The Jest" at the Criterion. Nothing daunted by the dismal failure of "Change Alley" in New York, Mr. Fred Terry produced it in London on April 25, 1899, with at least equal non-success.

That production marked the close of our collaboration. It did not so much stop as it ceased to continue. I do not know why. There was certainly no breach of continuity in our friendship; nor had we grown so overpoweringly rich during our joint work as to envy each other our wealth. "David," "Gudgeons," and the "Blue Boar" produced plenty of kudos in the way of agreeable Press notices, but precious little cash. "Gudgeons," to be sure, retrieved itself in America, and, under the name of "Wonderful James," is retrieving itself now. "Rosemary" made great fortunes for everybody except its authors; they were out in the cold, and there they have had to stay. The most satisfactory result all round was produced by "The Termagant," in which Miss Nethersole achieved considerable success.

In many of these plays Murray Carson himself performed. His Doctor Wendover in "David," Silas B. Hooper in "Gudgeons," Hundred-and-One in "Change Alley," were instances of wonderful character-acting, and testified to his extraordinary versatility. He gave a masterly performance of Sir Jasper Thorndyke in "Rosemary" on tour, in which his reading of the last act was especially admirable. His performance of the hero in my "Vagabond King" was a tour de force. The last time I saw him on the stage he played Tom Moone in "Drake," with all his old sense of character and all his wonted vigour.

As a collaborator he was invaluable.

His experience of the stage was vast and of infinite assistance to me, who had none. His imagination was quick and inexhaustible. He would improvise an entire play between breakfast and luncheon. His ingenuity was amazing; he was never at fault for a way into a difficult situation, or for a way out of it. He had a tremendous sense of humour. One of his characteristics, most valuable in a collaborator, was his generous—perhaps too generous—appreciation of the other man. He encouraged one with praise, and when he had to criticise adversely he was careful to give his reasons. No failure daunted him or damped his spirits or his ardour, nor did he attribute it to his partner's share in the work. He was an inveterate and incurable optimist.

One of his most valuable accomplishments was the art of reading a new play with such contagious belief in it that no manager could resist securing it on the spot.

In all the seven years we worked together, we never had a real difference of opinion or exchanged a cross word. Our work was generally done under the pleasantest circumstances, and in the pleasantest places. There is one (only one) little inn near London where a good meal and a bottle of good wine can be enjoyed on a terrace overlooking the river. Much of our creative talk took place there. Much at Broadstairs. In those days Germany was still a country in which decent people need not be ashamed to show themselves, and many pleasant inns on the Rhine and delightful nooks in the Vosges (but they were Alsatian) witnessed the inception of what we honestly believed and frankly proclaimed to be heaven-sent masterpieces.

Murray Carson was an admirable "producer" long before that hateful word had acquired its present baleful significance, and I owe much to his example in that direction. His one aim was, not to assert his own "cleverness," but to express the author's meaning clearly.

But besides all this, he was always a charming companion: full of boyish enthusiasms; getting every ounce of enjoyment out of life; brimming over with stories; and utterly devoid of small jealousies. I have lost a good friend, but he leaves me with none but the happiest and most grateful memories.

I have said nothing about his theatrical activities outside his collaboration with me, nor is it in my province to speak of the hard work he has done in his country's service since the war began. His father, whom he dearly loved, preceded him by only a few days. Little more than a week ago Murray Carson was amongst us, and I am glad to know he witnessed our old "Gudgeons" (always a favourite of ours) and the artistic triumph of his and my staunch friend, Herbert Waring.

Peace be with him; and to the saint-like lady who survives to mourn him be strength and patience and deep sympathy.

LOUIS N. PARKER.

THE LATE SIR F. C. BURNAND.

By W. A. LOCKER.

ALAS! I wish I could say, "By one who knew him," but unfortunately I was not called to the "Punch" table until nearly ten years after he had retired from it. But his memory is still kept green there. One of his old colleagues would often say, "I had a letter from Frank to-day," and then there would be a chorus of "What did he say?" for he rarely wrote to anyone without perpetrating one of those execrable puns in which he delighted.

He was a standing contradiction of the common belief that the professional humorist is, apart from his work, a melancholy and dyspeptic creature. There have been cases of that kind, but Burnand was not one of them. With his handsome, full-bearded face, merry, twinkling eyes, and upturned moustache, he looked, and was, the very embodiment of good-fellowship. Perhaps the greatest joke about him was that as a young man he yearned to take Holy Orders. If he had carried out his intention he might have developed into a "jolly friar," but not into a "gloomy dean." But the Stage gained what the Church lost. As a boy at Eton he had written a farce; at Cambridge he was one of the founders of the A.D.C., and very soon after he came to London he wrote a classical burlesque entitled "Dido," which was played at the St. James's. Incidentally, this led to his marriage to Miss Cecilia Victoria Rance, a charming member of the cast. Soon afterwards he joined the staff of "Fun," but when the editor short-

sightedly rejected his idea for a skit upon the current fiction of the day he transferred "Mokeanna" and himself to "Punch." That was in 1862. In 1880 he became editor, and did much to restore the reputation of the paper, from which he finally retired in 1906.

He never abandoned, however, his early love for the stage. He may have lacked the creative faculty; at any rate, he produced no great original drama; but for adaptation and burlesque he has rarely had an equal. The list of his pieces, numbering over 200, would fill this column. Perhaps the best remembered are "Black-eyed Susan" (a skit on his "Punch" colleague Shirley Brooks's nautical drama), which ran for 400 continuous nights at the Royalty; "The Colonel," in which he satirised the aesthetic craze; "Diplomacy," a brilliant travesty of Sardou's famous drama, which Burnand is said to have knocked off in five hours; "Cox and Box," an operetta based on Maddison Morton's evergreen farce, which he wrote in collaboration with Arthur Sullivan; and "Betsy," a rollicking three-act farce, which has been revived many times. He had the most extraordinary gift for turning a serious situation inside out, and never spared anyone, even himself; for having produced a drama called "Proof," he could not resist the temptation of writing a burlesque on it called "Overproof."

In our time there has never been anyone who provoked so much happy laughter. May the earth rest lightly on him!

W. A. LOCKER.

OUR BROADSHEET.

By ALFRED BARNARD.

SOME SUMS.

I AM loth to say a word against anything contained in the columns of the "Weekly Dispatch" since it has donned Mrs. Grundy's mantle—and I might be sorry even to admit that the mantle fits her so well. But a persistent effort to purify pictures, plays, and music-hall shows does lead me to take up the cudgels on behalf of the hardest-worked profession—even in war time—since the columns of great newspapers are open to all and sundry. Now, far be it from me to call my friend Mr. Hibbert either *All* or *Sundry*. He is neither. He is both. He is all that is best in either and both and afterwards something to the credit of his account for greatness.

But I do not think he should have written that article in the "Weekly Dispatch" on "What we waste on amusements." If the article had proved that we wasted even a brass farthing over a brass button or a hairpin there would have been no cause for complaint. But the article does no such thing.

Monkey Tricks.

To my mind H. G. H. has not been quite fair to the amusement world he knows so well, for he has introduced the Zoo into the argument.

I know comedians who on the stage love to look like monkeys, but who off the stage feel—and, indeed, look—equal to the job which has fallen to the lot of any man in control of any great country engaged in the war.

Now, possibly the figures given to show the number of people visiting the Zoo—1,084,289 (I believe, as a matter of fact, the figure should have been 1,084,290, because I saw a little fellow getting in without the aid of the turnstile)—may be correct. But supposing the total figure were ten million—would that prove anything, beyond the fact that children of the present day have grown out of the habit of keeping white mice and taken to studying the animal kingdom in that unfortunate estate to which it is called in Regent's Park. Is this great opportunity of developing in the nation a love of animals to be stamped out as a part of our methods of wasting money in amusements?

Surely no man will grudge the women, in view of all there is left at home, a visit to the Reptile House. Or what could be more inspiring to students of the progress of the European war than a moment's contemplation of the tortoise as he flits from one period of hibernation to another?

How much the nation owes to a proper study of the inmates of the Zoo no one would have known except for the war. Could we even after three years have understood the Hun without this opportunity of study?

An "Incomplete" Argument.

Mr. Hibbert treats us to many figures which one must take with a grain of salt. "On the weekdays of a year 1,056,375,000 people," he says, "visited picture shows, a daily average of 3,575,000. On Sundays there were 19,500,000 visitors, an average of 375,000. At an average of 6d. per head this means an annual expenditure on seeing pictures at £26,850,000."

I strongly suspect that, although given in good faith on the writer's part, these figures are absolute moonshine, and it would be interesting to learn whence they came and how they were arrived at. As Mr. Hibbert himself points out, although submitted to the Kinema Commission, the figures are incomplete. Why, then, publish them? Incomplete and inaccurate figures are misleading. But even supposing they are accurate, how do they serve to prove lack of economy in the administration of the 4,500 houses involved?

Of managers in the amusement business Mr. Hibbert is particularly scathing. He says:—

"I know no business which employs in responsible positions so many men with so little experience in its technical detail. The result is: they are ignorant and helpless in the hands of subordinates or sub-contractors. They are misled and overcharged. There is hardly a commodity entering a theatre that does not carry a higher price than in an ordinary commercial business, that is not bought in excess or for needless experiment, and probably stored to rot."

Misleading Articles.

This seems to me to be very hard on a class of men who for the amount of hard work and the length of hours expended earn less gratitude for their successes than any other.

Keen business men control amusement enterprises, and they do not make their dividends out of managers who don't understand their jobs, nor out of stores of theatrical properties that are devalued by moths.

The fact is there is in reality no such thing as "What we waste on amusements." We don't; that's all. It was a Chancellor of the Exchequer who told me, not so long ago, that he liked to see the amusement houses full, because the people who paid to go in—and upon which payments he would reap a tax—consumed nothing while they were there. Which is very sound—always excepting a little light and labour. By spending your money in the theatre, music hall or picture palace you use neither ships nor wheat, and you stimulate yourself so that you may be a cheery mortal of wonderful value in the much overstrained community.

ALFRED BARNARD.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

For Charity's Sake.

Miss Mary Anderson, who is appearing at the Coliseum for two weeks only in "Pygmalion and Galatea," will, as before, devote the whole of her salary of £500 weekly to charitable purposes, chief amongst them being the erection of a hospital for officers near her home in Broadway, Worcester.

A pair of Mlle. Genée's dancing shoes was auctioned at the Coliseum on Saturday night by Mr. Frederick Ross, and fetched £50. Flowers were handed up to the famous dancer with cheques attached to the value of £11. A pile of old gold and silver trinkets was also received, and will be melted down. All moneys will go to the War Seal Foundation Fund for Disabled Soldiers, for which Mlle. Genée is such an enthusiastic worker.



(Photo Malcolm Arbuthnot.)
Mlle. ADELINE GENÉE.

The L.O.H.'s Recent Manager.

Fortescue Harrison, who ruled the London Opera House so well for Mr. Oswald Stoll, has been requested by that variety magnate to return to the Bristol district to remanage the variety quarter of that ancient city. With F. H. has gone Mrs. F. H., that brilliant dress designer.

V.A.B.P. and I.

Latest additions to the list of donations received in response to the president's (Mr. George Graves) special appeal are: Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, 2,000 shillings; Fred Kitchen, 21s.; Harry Lauer, 20s.; Arthur Bourchier, 10s.; Harry Lauer, 10s.; Geo. H. Elliott, 21s.; Bros. Doh, 20s.; Selwyn (Collecting Sheet No. 3), 2s. The total received up till Tuesday morning is 12,746 shillings.

Off to Somerset.

Mr. Gus Elen has been advised by his doctor to take a few weeks' rest and change of air, and is off to Somersetshire. Gus, an enthusiastic angler, tells me that he is not forgetting to take his rod and line, and is looking forward to many a "nice, quiet day."

Good and Bad Luck.

The famous Cockney caroller's angling experiences are interesting reading. In a letter in the "Fishing Gazette" Gus relates how, last spring, he hooked and landed (somewhere in England) four salmon, weighing 11 lb., 15 lb., 8½ lb., and 10 lb., in a week. Two were caught within twenty minutes of each other. Mr. Elen also relates, in droll humorous fashion, how, accompanied by a small boy who consumed Gus's lunch instead of his own, he had a most unlucky time the week following.

A Manager's Address.

Forget not O! my brethren that Arthur Croxton, manager of the Coliseum, will hold forth at 6.30 this evening at the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, on "The War, the Church, and Amusements." I suppose in due course we shall have to describe Friend Arthur as the Rev. Mr. Croxton of St. Stoll's!

For Our Wounded Heroes.

The Architectural Association Voluntary Aid Detachment in connection with the British Red Cross Society are organising entertainments for the wounded, who will be brought from the hospitals in motor-cars, with attendants. The entertainments will consist of a tea and a variety concert, and will be held in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, free use having been granted, or otherwise out of doors. Mr. George Robey will appear at the first concert at Caxton Hall next Saturday. The Mayor will preside. Mr. R. C. Reeves, the general organizer, 37, Great Smith-street, Westminster, will be glad to hear from any artists who would be willing to appear at these entertainments.

"Tin Gods."

After a short provincial tour up north, reaching as far as Aberdeen, Carlton Brough and company are back in town this week at Walham Green. "Tin Gods" is certainly very amusing, and of course gives ample opportunity for the popular singer, who on Monday was in good form, and sang delightfully the "Eldorado" number, and "Sometimes You'll Remember." Special mention must be made of Miss Mary Breslin who plays the part of the mother to perfection. Altogether it is a capital show.

The Rollicking Roberts.

Some weeks ago I stated herein that Arthur Roberts had been reviving several of his good old songs to cheer our wounded heroes withal. I suggested to A. R. that a public revival of these ditties might be a wise thing. And now, lo! Arthur has just signed with the "Syndicate" Halls Directorate to give these warbles from Whitlunside onward.

A Prestidigitator's Playhouse.

Wizard Ramesses has just told me that he is about to take over one of the best known amusement temples in Southend.

"Mrs. Frank's" Charity Show.

Speaking of Southend, hasten down all ye who can to that town to-day for Mrs. Frank Allen's splendid matinee at the local Hippodrome in aid of blinded soldiers.

Houdini to Star in Pictures.

Harry Houdini, the Handcuff King, hero of thousands of challenges and the creator of many miraculous escapes and unexplainable feats, has had many offers to appear in moving pictures, and has accepted that of the Williamson Brothers, New York. Houdini will be featured in an international drama of thrills in the air, on land, and under water, and will receive the largest sum of money ever paid to any one performer for a single motion picture. A noted novelist has been secured to prepare the story.

When this big picture is taken in the clear waters of the West Indies, Houdini will endeavour to demonstrate that he can escape from the Williamson tube without breaking through the two inch glass, five and one-half feet in diameter, that forms the window of the steel chamber in which the camera operator sits. If he is successful, there will be photographic evidence of it incorporated into the picture of which Houdini is the star.

Rotunda, Liverpool, 'verts to Vaudeville.

Mr. Matthew Montgomery now has the nightly pleasure of seeing his popular Rotunda, Liverpool, crowded with those who are highly appreciative of the new bright form of entertainment regularly on offer at this house. The popularity of the new class of bill is a tribute to Mr. Matthew Montgomery's managerial acumen.

The change in the character of the programme was the direct result, in the first instance, of a remark made by two circle visitors towards the end of last year. A drama was the attraction, and, coming out of the theatre, one visitor said to the other: "Well! How did you enjoy it?" And the reply was: "Oh, all right! But I like something to laugh at!" Mr. Montgomery overheard these remarks, and he was not long in acting upon them.

"The Silver Lining."

Mr. Francis Laidler's production "The Silver Lining," will be an entirely new one, in six scenes of sunshine. It will be produced in June next, and will play the full programme twice nightly. A strong cast of revue principals and a full and attractive London chorus have been engaged, and Francis Laidler's Little Sunbeams will give added brightness to the production.

To Aid Brondesbury Park Military Hospital.

Mr. Alfred Butt and his co-directors have lent the Palace Theatre for a grand concert, to be given on Sunday evening next, in aid of the extension of the Brondesbury Park Military Hospital. It is being organised by Messrs. Maurice Volny, the general manager, Morris E. Benjamin, secretary, and Herman Fink, musical director of the Palace.

All the Stars.

The Duke of Portland heads the long and distinguished list of patrons, and among the artists who have already promised to appear are Margaret Cooper, Joseph Coyne, Phyllis Dare, Violet Essex, George Graves, Eric Greene, Fred Groves, Myra Hess, Hartley Wonders, Fred Leslie, Stanley Logan, Violet Loraine, Billy Merson, Jose de Moraes, Talbot O'Farrell, Ella Retford, Ivy Shilling, Charles Tucker, Albert Whelan, and Harry Weldon.

Mr. Tom Sherlock.

Mr. Tom Sherlock, who has been managing the Opera House, Salford, during the last nine years, has, I hear, arranged to be released from his present duties to serve his King and country. Mr. Sherlock is having a benefit to-morrow (Thursday).

Presentation to Mr. Vincent Potter.

There was much enthusiasm at the Empire Theatre, Belfast, on Friday evening last, when Mr. Vincent Potter, the popular manager, was presented with a gold watch by the staff and some personal friends. The presentation took place on the stage after the second house, Mr. E. Hart, in a few well-chosen words, expressing the pleasure the staff had in asking Mr. Potter's acceptance of the gift as a small token of the high esteem in which he was held by the staff.

In returning his grateful thanks, Mr. Potter stated that he had always found the boys and girls of the staff all that a manager could possibly desire, and he and Mr. Barney Armstrong, the lessee, were very pleased that their untiring efforts were such that everything worked not only harmoniously but to the success of the Empire. Mr. Tom Harvey and Mr. Harry Doherty (stage manager) also said a few words. Mr. Potter afterwards entertained the company.

Miss Mary Leighton.

Miss Mary Leighton, the well-known soprano lyrique, who is to appear at the London Coliseum next Monday, first appeared before the public four years ago, and gave many recitals in London and Liverpool. She has appeared at nearly all of the leading choral societies, including the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, and has sung in orchestral concerts in India and at the Bombay Philharmonic Society. Miss Leighton has probably the widest range of any soprano, as she sings F sharp in alt with consummate ease. Miss Leighton's business is managed by Mr. Victor Marmont, of Gordon's Agency, who also accompanies her at the piano.

New Sketches Promised.

Mr. Ernie Lotings is busily rehearsing, and will shortly produce, a new sketch, entitled "Wife Wanted," written by Charles Baldwin, and himself. The same authors are writing a big new sketch for the Six Brothers Luck, entitled "Bonus Bonds," which will start on the Moss Tour in the autumn.

That Bensonian Revue.

Ernest C. Rolfs tells me that he thinks of calling his new revue for Jennie Benson, "Home Again."

Jack Norworth Theatre.

Mr. Jack Norworth, the popular American comedian, who made such a success over here in revue, and in songs of the tongue-twisting type, such as Sister Susie's Sewing Shirts for Soldiers, is, says "The Player," about to control his own theatre across the "pond." Plans have been drawn and arrangements are under way for the building of this house in West Fort-eighth-street, on land which has been leased by Mr. Edward F. Rush, who has leased the theatre to Mr. Norworth, after whom the theatre will be named.

Wounded Heroes at Leicester Palace.

By kind invitation of Mr. Oswald Stoll, a thousand wounded men from the hospitals in Leicester were entertained at the Palace Theatre on Friday afternoon. The articles included Miss Florence Wray and company, the Hartley Wonders, the De Breams, Hemming and Free, Ogda and company, Hayman and Lowe, Pop and Poppetts, and Daisy Wood, and their contributions were enthusiastically received. Mr. Truman Towers (the resident acting manager) saw that the arrangements were perfect for the comfort of the delighted audience, and other valued helpers were Mr. Thomas J. Phillips (the assistant manager), Mr. John W. Lowe (musical director), who composed a special overture of American airs in honour of the day, Mr. Jones (stage manager), Mr. Fearn, and Mr. Stephens.

Jack Terry.

Mr. Jack Terry, of that well-known and popular couple, Terry and Lambert, whose act has won golden opinions in many countries, is now working solos, and his versatility and cleverness as a character actor are proved in a number of really funny songs and skits. He has a particularly amusing and topical number, in which he appears as an Irish girl who has come as a munition worker to London, and finds it a very wonderful place. Jack is a new dame comedian who is likely to be kept very busy.

The Late Fred Emney's Sketches.

The rights of "A Sister to Assist 'Er" and "The Arrival of a Rival" have been assigned by Mrs. Fred Emney to Mr. Frank Fawcett and Mr. Austin Fryers, who will give their first London presentation of the first-named popular playlet at the Victoria Palace on May 21. Preliminary provincial performances have been arranged, and the sketch was presented last week at the Palace Theatre, Maidstone. Mr. George Miller, a well-known "dame" comedian, has been engaged for Mr. Emney's famous impersonation of "Mrs. May"; and Miss Gracie Vicat resumes her part of the Landlady, which she played with Mr. Emney.

"A Suitor to Suit 'Er."

Messrs. Fawcett and Fryers gave a copy-right performance on Wednesday last of a new "Mrs. May" sketch entitled "A Suitor to Suit 'Er." In this "Mrs. May" appears as a teacher of Society manners to the wealthy widow of a retired pork butcher. There is some idea, I hear, of presenting the three sketches in the one bill as a farcical trilogy under the title of "The Adventures of Mrs. May," and an offer from a well-known management with this object in view is being considered, and may be accepted if arrangements can be made in view of existing contracts.

The French Pollu.

Albert Brouett, the French Pollu, who recently made such a great success at the Oxford, first came here four years ago, and returning to Paris starred in revue at the Folies Bergeres and Alcazar d'Ete with Morton (later of the Ambassadors Theatre). He also played under Mme. Rasini as principal star in her revues, and was an intimate friend of the late Harry Fragon.



ALBERT BROUETT.

Fought at Verdun.

Albert joined up in 1914, and fought at South Verdun, being invalided out of the Army after 12 months' service. He returned to England early in 1916, and played in Fred Karno's "Parlez-vous Français" and "Hot and Cold." In the former sketch he was associated with Syd Walker, of whom he has very happy recollections, as Albert tells me he gained a footing here from the kindly help given him by Syd.

"Am I Your Wife?"

Mr. Fred Duprez, who is playing the title-role in "Mr. Manhattan" on tour, is completing arrangements with Moss Empires to produce a sketch for them at Bradford. It is an American playlet entitled "Am I Your Wife?" and Fred tells me it is one of those mistaken identity things in which he will play twin brothers.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The president and committee wish to thank Frank Allen, Esq., and the Directors of Moss' Theatres, for their consent in again allowing collections to take place at their London and provincial theatres whereby the Guild has realised the handsome sum of £282 0s. 8d. The respective managers, assistant managers, and staffs of the various theatres, and many private friends who assisted, are also thanked.

Mr. Van Hoven is thanked for a further donation of a guinea.

The committee also wish to thank the following artists who appeared at their ninth concert given on Friday last at King George's Hospital to the wounded soldiers there: Miss Harriet Vernon, The Brothers McNaughton, Miss Maude Mortimer, Miss Irene Rose, Mr. Charles Coburn, Mr. S. W. Wyndham, Mr. Bert Weston, Tom Morton and Maggie Bowman, Mr. Cliff Ryland.

Scottish Women's Hospitals.

To help the Scottish Women's Hospitals a special matinee was given at the Glasgow Alhambra yesterday (Tuesday), when, in addition to selections from the "Brace" revue, artists from Mr. Courtneidge's "Young England" company and Messrs. Percy Hutchinson and Herbert Jay's "General Post" company kindly appeared.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

VICTORIA PALACE.

Those clever youthful performers, Beatie and Baba, are presenting a novel production, "Kitchen Follies," at the Victoria Palace this week. Although new and original, this little comedy scene—as it is described on the bill of fare—retains sufficient of those excellent personal features which have won for Beatie and Baba in the past unstinted popularity. Burlesque of operatic singing is retained, while, as usual, there is an abundance of up-to-date vocal work. Altogether it can be said that Beatie and Baba have equipped themselves with an entirely fresh and enjoyable performance.

Coram, with his new recruit "Jerry," is particularly acceptable to the military section of the audience, who especially appreciate the many little asides and quips. As Catherine Parr, Malcolm Scott, "the woman who knows," relates how "Henry of the V. and three eyes" came to be her lawful husband. He also gives a vigorous exhibition of ballet dancing. In the Elgar Hudson Quintette all the branches of musical talent are charmingly interwoven, Miss Elgar Hudson's flute and piccolo playing being a particularly acceptable feature.

Thornley-Dodge gives "A Bit of Lancashire," in which he dilates on the absolute folly of ever arguing with his wife. "If the Missus says it's black, then it's black," runs the chorus of one of his most popular songs. Ethel Newman is winsome and alert in a miniature comedy with music, "The Widow"; and Nellie Wigley is equally successful in a ditty relating to the homecoming of the soldier boys after the war, followed by some Scotch songs, in the rendering of which she is attractively attired in the Highland regalia. The Akabona Troupe of Japanese artists complete.

THE SURREY.

The Jutland Boys were introduced to Surrey audiences on Monday in a neat little speech by Mr. Dave Hyman. The "Boys" are all discharged naval men, some of whom took part in the big Jutland fight. Their act is very entertaining—one full of humour and music, whilst dancing, fencing, and boxing form specialties. They open with a very appropriate ensemble, "Sons of the Sea." Then come some clever imitations from late Able Seaman Sugg, followed by a rollicking "Jack Tar" number from late Chief Petty Officer G. D. Warner, and an excellent impression is created by Mr. L. Elliott's rendering of "Asleep in the Deep," which rivalled late Able Seaman P. Talbot's one-acting fiddle solo in popularity. A hornpipe dance by Mr. Warner, a "grasshopper's" duet, and a "Yaaka Hula" quartette were other most acceptable items; whilst the finale is an excellent one, late Chief Petty Officer J. Jones singing "When We Were Boys Together," which brought down the house. The Jutland Boys and Mr. Dave Hyman are to be congratulated on the success of their act.

Mr. George Crowther, the bustling comedian, has a couple of excellent numbers, whilst those masters of burlesque, Fyne and Hurley, get a hearty reception. Lillie Lassah, who played principal boy in the Elephant pantomime, now appears as a girl, and her success is assured. Lowell Brothers, one a trick balancer and the other a burlesque musician, are very successful, as are also The Joss in a clever specialty act. The Four Clovelly Girls, in their great club juggling act complete the bill.

"SOME GIRLS."

Revue, in Three Scenes, Arranged, Written, and Produced by Frank Asworth and Jackson Owen, Produced for the First Time in London at the Rotherhithe Hippodrome on Monday, April 23. "Some Girls" is certainly "some show." It is full of really excellent comedy, pretty scenery, abundant musical numbers, fascinating terpsichorean evolutions, and "some girls" in the daintiest of costumes. There is a slight plot, dealing with the search by a girl for a girl with a tattooed back, who, we gather, has the power to present a lovely island, which forms the scene, to the said detective. This last scene was very effective, the black and white effects harmonising with the dainty dresses designed so well by Miss Bessie Leslie.

Of course, in a show of this kind, the comedy is of the utmost importance, and Mr. J. Leven, who is presenting the revue, is fortunate in having secured a comedian of the class of Mr. Jackson Owen. Mr. Owen never misses an opportunity to score a point or raise a laugh, and his numerous "gags" were all very funny. His "Kiss" duet with Miss Lena Valma proved his versatility in song and dance. Miss Valma played excellently throughout, singing her "Sandy McKie" and several other numbers quite well, and dancing very gracefully. Miss Mabel Hirst sang two ballads, and proved herself the possessor of a beautiful soprano. Mr. Hervey Bruce deserves much praise for his performance throughout, singing numerous numbers, playing the bagpipes (real Scotch), and dancing and "gagging." His partner, Miss Nellie Dyson, was also very successful, the specialty act of the couple in the second scene being very popular. A novelty was that of Mr. Jackson Owen, Miss Bessie Leslie, and Miss Jessie Sealing in a clever and funny act, "Dollies Deforming Themselves." The San Remo Girls, in clever dancing, and a real "beauty" chorus add to the success. Mr. Tom Sutton is the musical director.

Indication of the success of "The Aristocrat," at the St. James's, is found in the fact that, in addition to the usual matinees on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, an extra matinee will be given every Monday.

Miss Lillie Langtry, who is playing the Golliver Circuit, is making a big hit with her sailor number. The vivacious and versatile comedienne is at the Camberwell Palace this week.

Rondelle and Royalt have purchased the sole singing and performing rights of an original number entitled "Oh, Cecil, I Like You to Whistle," written and composed by Harry Luck.

Barnard and Bunny ask us to state that they have now recovered their hamper. We regret to learn that Mr. Barnard was unable to play after the Monday night at Kingston owing to a severe attack of tonsillitis. He is now on the mend, and hopes to resume work next week.

INTERVIEW WITH MISS FLOYD ARISTON.

832 CONCERTS TO THE BOYS.

In a brief interview with Miss Floyd Ariston, the popular and accomplished vocalist told us that she had given some 832 concerts to the boys. Nearly every principal hospital and camp in London and the principal towns have been visited, and Miss Ariston has received numerous military badges. The letters of thanks from the various places she has visited would fill a fair-sized trunk. Before the war Miss Ariston was featuring old folk songs, and also singing a good many numbers in French. When the war started she naturally found it impossible to continue her engagements on the Continent, for which she had bookings for many years ahead, but immediately decided to devote the greater part of her time to the wounded.

A few weeks back, Miss Ariston told us, Dolf Astor, with an American rag-time



(Photo, Ellis and Walery.)
MISS FLOYD ARISTON.

band, arrived in this country, and as Mr. Astor happened to witness her show at one of these concerts, he immediately made her an offer to join the rag-time band. Their first concert at Brighton was most successful, and in many cases, before Miss Ariston was allowed to leave the stage, she had to give as many as five songs, and still left the audience clamouring for more.

London, unfortunately, will not have the opportunity of hearing and seeing this success for some little time, as the company is booked ahead in the big provincial towns for a considerable period. Miss Ariston will, as usual, be devoting her spare time to amusing the Tommies in the hospitals in any town she happens to be visiting.

The act in which Miss Ariston is featuring, she informed us, is quite a novelty, and consists of half a dozen instrumentalists, who make a specialty of rag-time music. There is in the company "some" drummer, who presides over a miscellaneous assortment of instruments, including principally the drums, triangle, cymbals, motor horns, and a frying-pan! He produces some quite remarkable effects. There is also a solo violinist, who is an artist of exceptional gifts, and when the company were playing at Brighton his rendering of classic Morceaux gave the greatest pleasure to the more discriminating among the audience.

Asked as to whether she thought rag-time still proved an attraction to English audiences, Miss Ariston replied that when it is sung as rag-time should be sung they certainly liked it, and, she considered, always would.

THE TERRIERS.

At the meeting on Sunday last Jim Obo officiated as W.T., W. B. Baby as V.T., Jack Gallagher G.C., Ben Obo W.L., Ted Karno W.D., Jimmy Halma Y.B., and Arthur Were as Organist.

A hearty welcome was extended to Terriers Jack Gallagher, Teddy Carlton, and Ken Barton upon their reappearance in the Kennel.

Letters have been received from Terriers Ernest Dillon (Egypt), Nat Goodman (North Sea), Jack Harris (Germany), C. E. Williams (Staffs), Lauri Howard (Cedar Lawn Hospital, Hampshire), Jack Shevill (Mesopotamia), Joe Redfern (France), and L. Houssein (South Wales).

The election of officers for May will be held on Sunday next.

Mr. C. Douglas Stuart writes: "In reference to the paragraph that appeared in your issue of last week, re the death of Mr. Arthur Young, who left a widow and eight little children. As it is probable that some of your readers may wonder why the professional societies had not helped such a deserving case, I beg to inform you that when the same was brought before the notice of the committee of the Variety Artists' Benevolent Fund prior to the death of Mr. Young, they at once granted him weekly relief, and since his death have been continuing the grant to his widow." We are also informed that representatives of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild visited Mrs. Young with a view to helping her.

Walker's Juveniles have returned to London after a long tour in the provinces, and are this week being enthusiastically received at the Palladium.

Mr. Charles Coburn will read a paper next Sunday night before the O.P. Club and its friends, at the Royal Adelaide Rooms, Gatti's Restaurant, King William-street, Strand, on the subject of "The Music Hall and the Church." If any musical artists would like to be present, Mr. Coburn will be pleased to forward them cards of admission.

Samuel Lee, of the West London Variety Agency, is awaiting to undergo an operation in the Gordon Hospital, Vauxhall Bridge-road, S.W. He would be pleased to hear from friends. During his absence the business will be carried on as usual.

Frivolity Freer informs us that he has joined the Great Morritt in partnership for a world's tour of reorganised big shows at the end of hostilities and the expiration of present engagements. Morritt's mysteries and vaudeville company are making the great success at Pontypool this week, and at the Hippodrome, Derby, on Saturday last; there was a record house.

WOUNDED ENTERTAINED AT YORK.

A number of wounded Tommies were the guests on Friday at the Mansion House, York, of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, and the City Sheriff and lady, when a very enjoyable entertainment was provided. Among those who attended were R. G. Knowles, Samn Shields, Mr. Hugh Macklin and M. Hedden Foster (of the Carl Rosa Opera Company), Miss O'Farrell, Mr. Dawce Millward, Mr. Cecil Manning (from "General Post"), Miss Dorothy Lena, Miss Lola Winston, Miss Nellie Carlyle, Miss Valere, Mr. Arthur Medwyn, and Ophelia, Mr. S. Cramer-Suckley providing the pianoforte accompaniments for the whole of the artists. After the entertainment tea was served.

The Lord Mayor proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the entertainers, and expressed his thanks to the managements of the Grand Theatre, Leeds, the Hippodrome, Leeds, Mr. Charles Bush, of the Theatre Royal, Leeds, the Theatre Royal, York, and the Opera House and Empire, York, for readily according the artists permission to appear.

Mr. R. G. Knowles, in acknowledging the vote on behalf of his colleagues, said the fact that his country had come into the war was to his mind a very pleasant incident in a great world event. That the head of his country had waited as long as he had done was just right. Concluding, the speaker said he happened to be a curious combination. His father's ancestors came from Yorkshire. On his mother's side they came from Aberdeen. It was a tough combination—and he was a product of the combination, but he had a loving feeling which went out to all mankind. "I do not believe," remarked Mr. Knowles, "in this loving only ourselves. Let us grow beyond that and rise. Political party is good; creed ought to be better; and nation should be best; but humanity, believe me, is so great that no name has yet been coined to define its gigantic proportions."

Mr. Davidson, on behalf of the revue company appearing at the York Empire, Mr. Sidney Brooke for the Empire management, Mr. Bert Brown, manager of the Leeds Hippodrome, Mr. Charles Bush, manager of the Theatre Royal, Leeds, and Mr. Wallace Stranack for the Theatre Royal management, also returned thanks.

Neal Solomon, a venerable coloured man, who was formerly prominent as a song and dance artiste in the Mohawk Minstrels, died at Birmingham a few days ago.

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ON TOUR.

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IMPRESSIONIST.**MAY MOORE DUPREZ**

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THE NEW HEADLINERS**NIBLO and DORIS**

April 23, PALACE, TOTTENHAM (Top).

RAPIDLY RISING TO FAME.

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THE NEW-STYLE COMEDIENNE.
This Week, BIRMINGHAM. Next, EMPIRE, CHISWICK.
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April 23, HIPPO., MANCHESTER.
April 30, T.R., DUBLIN.

DUNCAN and GODFREY

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"Has much quiet humour in his composition."—Vide REFEREE.

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THE PALLADIUM.

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(Hundreds turned away nightly.)

"April 2."
"The Jutland Boys made a great hit at Palace, Blackpool."
"ERNEST DOTTRIDGE."
(Booked for early return.)

"Hippodrome, Darlington."
"Having played the Jutland Boys at Barrow and Darlington, it affords me
great pleasure in congratulating them on their act. . . . They have proved a
big attraction, and I shall be glad to recommend them to any proprietor."
"SIGNOR PEPI."

(Rebooked by Signor Pepi for May 7.)

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April 23, PALACE, WALTHAMSTOW. April 30, VACANT.

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Brilliant Musical Melange.

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PICTURES—GREAT AND SMALL.

BY OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

Whilst we are agitating for the essential conditions of trade defence—"finality and security"—other great developments are speeding along, quite separate in scope, but of vital moment to the picture world. One of these is the problem of the big picture—"Colossal" is the Boomer's word. What will be the effect of the great screen drama—or continuous succession of vast tableaux—on the permanent attractions of the picture houses? There are several important considerations in any careful study of the problem. In its superficial aspect the critic might define it thus: Does the big picture draw the people to the detriment of the permanent picture houses? Granted that it does affect the attendance at the permanent houses—the touring colossal may claim its right to live. That point is, however, not the crux of the question—the problem goes deeper down than that. No, it is not the case of the big fish eating up the little ones.

There comes into the problem the constant quantity, the great determining factor—the public demand for the colossal. Is there a real and constant demand for a class of screen drama that will fill our principal provincial theatres—and command Drury Lane?

PANORAMA OR LIVING PICTURE?

Stripped of its new appeal, the colossal picture is really a development in motion picture of the once popular panorama. Its very method and claim for attention lie in the fact that it carries the audience for the whole of the show, in changing scenes of events yet a connected progression—planned and set out as the panorama was to illustrate to the audience a particular theme, travel or stirring events. There can be no doubt that the ordinary picture house, despite the competition of the colossal, will still endure and entertain the people's popular form of entertainment. The colossal, like a comet, may blaze across the sky, and in its orbit claim unusual attention, but the multitude do not crave the abnormal. It is in the normal, everyday things that the true art of the picture theatre finds its highest vocation—life, joys and sorrows, the triumph of virtue, the vindication of justice. These in clear story shown on the screen are what the people want. The presentation of the eternal verities, whether in colossal tableau or in brief portrayal, will ever meet with a rich reward.

"BOHEMIA."

THEDA BARA IN ANOTHER TEMPERAMENTAL ROLE.

Production Wm. Fox
Star Theda Bara
Type Domestic Drama
Length Five Parts
Released Sept. 17
Produced at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Wednesday last, this production shows Theda Bara in the type of character she has made peculiarly her own. Reeced from the gutter by a sculptor, she becomes first his model and then his mistress. In the former capacity she brings him fame and fortune, but in the latter she is the cause of his degradation, and later on his tragic death. This is brought about by the fickle nature of the woman, who, taken by him to a reception, ensnares another man by her fatal beauty, and she promptly discards her benefactor. This person poses to her as a single man, and promises to marry her, but his deception is exposed to the woman by his own friend, who is also enamoured of the siren. Enraged, she demands that this friend shall take her to the deceiver's home, with the intention of denouncing him to his wife. She is only restrained from doing so by the pretty face and tongue of the little daughter, and, out of compassion for her, relents and departs. The final scene, showing the woman in her flat, disillusioned and wretched, falling prone at the foot of the broken statue of herself, is highly dramatic, and was acted by Miss Bara with much intensity and passion. The plot is not a pleasant one, but there can be no question of its merits as a thrilling film story, and as a vehicle for powerful acting.

(See our Film Marking.)

"THE GIRL PHILIPPA."

ENGROSSING TOPICAL AND ROMANTIC FILM.

Production Vitaphone
Star Anita Stewart
Type Drama
Length Six Parts
Released Sept. 17
This film, shown at the West End Cinema on Friday, is a skilful blend of the romantic and topical. The leading character, Philippa, is the daughter of the ruler of a small State who, some years before, have been murdered by a hostile political faction. The girl, brought up by a villainous cabaret keeper, has been kept in ignorance of her real station, and at the time the action opens is employed by her foster-father as cashier at the cabaret. She here meets with a young American painter, and an English secret service agent, who has been enabled to obtain from two Germans the particulars of a new American explosive shell, which they had obtained by robbery from the American Government. After many vicissitudes the papers reach the British Embassy in Paris, thanks mainly to the bravery and resource of Philippa. The outbreak of war is indirectly the cause of the discovery of Philippa's real identity; and the final scene, where she acquiesces in the young artist of the fact of her high birth, brings from him the frank avowal of his love for her, though he hardly dares to hope to win her. The girl's fine nature, however, reveals itself, and they affectionately embrace. There are many very fine scenes, the bombardment and capture of a town by the Germans, who are afterwards dispossessed as a result of a violent counter-attack by the French, being extremely realistic.

(See our Film Marking.)

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LONDON, W.

"THE CRUCIAL TEST."

WIFE HUMBLER HERSELF TO SECURE THE FAME TO WHICH HER HUSBAND IS ENTITLED.

Production Brady World Made
Star Kitty Gordon
Type Drama
Length Five Acts
Distributor Gaumont
Shown at Gaumont's Private Theatre last week, this picture deals with Bulgarian Nihilism and plots against ruling Powers. Countess Thanya is the sister of the revolutionist chosen to kill the Grand Duke, the plot is discovered, and both are sent to exile. They escape and make their way to Paris, where Thanya marries Paul Clayton, an American artist. The duke, having learnt the whereabouts of the exiles, out of revenge refuses to hang Paul's pictures at the art exhibition of which he is chairman. Ruin stars Paul in the face, and the duke offers to give Paul fame, but only at the price of Thanya's honour. Thanya appears to consent; Paul's fame is established; she visits and struggles with the duke, who is shot by her brother in fulfilment of his oath. Miss Kitty Gordon gives an excellent demonstration of her dramatic ability, and is, as usual, gorgeously gowned. The march of the exiles into Siberia is well arranged, and some beautiful snow scenes are screened.

(See our Film Marking.)

"THE GRIP OF JEALOUSY."

THRILLING INCIDENTS ARISING OUT OF THE SECRET MARRIAGE OF A YOUTH AND GIRL BETWEEN WHOSE FAMILIES A FEUD HAS EXISTED FOR GENERATIONS.

Production Eue Bird
Star Louise Lovely
Type Drama
Length Five Reels
Distributors General Film Renting Agency

The days of slavery in the Southern States are recalled in the above picture, which was screened at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Thursday last. The story relates how Beth Grant secretly marries Jack Morey. The belief that Beth has been dishonoured intensifies her brother Harry's hatred of the Moreys. Harry is found murdered; Jack Morey is suspected, and flees; Beth dies, and the daughter born to her is thought by her sister Virginia to be illegitimate. The latter leaves the baby at Uncle Jeff's door, and he brings it up as his own grandchild. When the child grows up into a beautiful girl, she is claimed by Silas Macey, once overcoerced to the Grants, who uses his power to force Virginia to marry him. After many exciting incidents, Silas Macey is proved guilty of the murder of Harry Grant. Jack Morey returns and claims his daughter, and Virginia marries the man she loves.

Miss Louise Lovely gives a very fine performance in the character of Virginia Grant, and Walter Belasco is admirable as Uncle Jeff. The wonderful beauty of scenery in the Southern States is well photographed, and the costumes are in keeping with the period.

(See our Film Marking.)

"HER CIRCUS KNIGHT."

ORA KAREW AS A CIRCUS STAR.
Production Triangle-Keystone
Star Ora Karew
Type Comedy
Length Two Acts
Released May 29
Distributors Triangle Co.
Presented at the Triangle weekly trade show at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Friday last, this picture deals with a girl who runs away from her bomb-throwing papa to see the circus. She gets mixed up generally with the side shows, and the picture is a whirlwind of humorous situations, including ascents in flying machines.

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descents by parachute, climbing telegraph poles and being bombed down again, bare-backed horse riding, aeroplanes chasing motor-cars, and other things too numerous to mention. Miss Ora Karew, as the girl who is the main cause of the trouble, seems afraid of nothing, and performs some marvellous acrobatic and dexterous feats. The film goes with a laugh from start to finish.

(See our Film Marking.)

"THE MISSING BANK-NOTE."

THE COURSE OF TRUE LOVE RUNS UNSMOOTHLY IN AMERICAN VILLAGES.

Production Triangle
Star Norma Talmadge
Type Drama
Length Four Parts
Released Aug. 6
Distributors Triangle Co.
The machinations of a bank cashier, whose forgeries are the cause of the bank's failure, form the basis of the above picture. The receiver appointed is found in the bank murdered, and one of the late bank manager's sons is arrested for the crime. He is about to be lynched when the murder is brought home to the dishonest cashier. The picture gives a good idea of village life in America, and a fine love interest is introduced. Norma Talmadge acts convincingly both as the sweetheart and wife of the man wrongfully accused of the crime. Some interesting in-

remain. During the short time they are there an attempted robbery of the mansion is frustrated by the youngsters, and they also effect the timely rescue of the banker's daughter, who has fallen over a deep ravine while gathering wild flowers. The main interest of the film, however, revolves round the camp life of the boys, and will, no doubt, attract the keen attention of the youngsters.

(See our Film Marking.)

"PIP-CURE" COMEDIES.

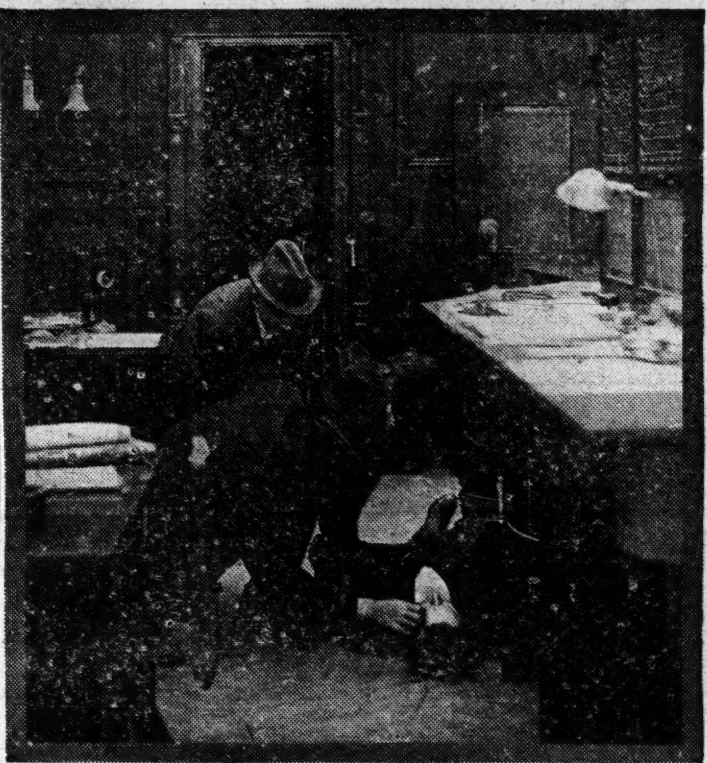
HUMP-ERASERS, OR CURES FOR THE "PIP."

Production Lucioque, Ltd.
Type Comedy Serial
An amusing series of comedies with the above ingenious title was shown on Thursday at the West-End Cinema. They are distinctly above the average of pieces of the sort recently shown, being reasonably prettable and capably acted. The photographic quality, also, leaves nothing to be desired, while the trick effects are clever in the extreme. We commend the series to the attention of renters, and are convinced they will be a paying proposition.

"AMERICA—TO ARMS!"

FINE TOPICAL ONE REEL.

Production Wm. Fox
An intensely interesting one-reel film. With the above title, was shown on Wednesday by Wm. Fox at the Shaftesbury



"The Missing Bank-note."

Triangle.

teriors are shown; the attempted lynching, the run on the bank, and the college scenes are all well arranged.

(See our Film Marking.)

"HER HUSBAND."

CHARLIE CHAPLIN AS A DIVORCED HUSBAND.

Production Mutual-Chaplin
Star Charlie Chaplin
Type Farce
Length One Reel
Distributors Western Import

In the re-issue of this film, shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Friday last, we are introduced to the ever-green Charlie in the character of the divorced husband meeting his former wife, now married to her third. Charlie rouses the jealousy of No. 3, which is accentuated by the sleep-walking proclivities of the lady concerned. The numerous tricks and mannerisms of Charlie throughout the piece carry the whole thing successfully to its riotous conclusion. The picture is well lighted and the photography clear.

(See our Film Marking.)

"HER FATHER'S STATION."

FLIRTATIONS OF STATIONMASTER'S DAUGHTER CAUSE TROUBLE.

Production Wm. Fox
Star Anna Lehr
Type Comedy
Length Two Reels

This Fox comedy, shown at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Wednesday last, gained many a hearty laugh. The daughter of a stationmaster is the cause of most of the trouble, brought about by the young mad-cap's flirtations, and her frequent disappearances from her post at the station. Many fine motor-car and railway pictures are shown during the progress of the film.

(See our Film Marking.)

"THE SILVER WOLF."

INTERESTING BOY SCOUT PRODUCTION.

Production Lucioque, Ltd.
Type Topical
Length Two Reels

A remarkable film, illustrating the excellent effect of the Boy Scout movement on the minds of the youth of the nation, was shown at the West-End Cinema on Thursday. A troupe of Scouts, receiving permission from the manager to encamp for a time on the estate of Sir Robert Maitland, are, nevertheless, ordered away by the owner when he encounters them, but, in deference to the wishes of his little daughter, he reluctantly allows them to

Filmland

NEWS AND REVIEWS OF THE PICTURE WORLD

FILMLAND GOSSIP.

A Charlie Chaplin Revue.

Mr. Langford Reed, the author of the Charlie Chaplin film revue, which was noticed in our columns last week, has made a complete story from over 200 cuttings from a dozen existing Chaplin films, and has introduced half a dozen fresh scenes, specially produced in London. The revue has taken six months to complete. All the fifty odd titles are in topical verse, cleverly arranged, and the result is a five-act feature with a sustained story. Not an easy undertaking from the author's point of view, but Mr. Reed has dealt with the difficulties in his customary masterly manner, and the production is being eagerly awaited. The release date for the Charlie Chaplin revue film is Aug. 20.

Gaumont.

This week there will be no trade show in the Gaumont Film Hire Service Theatre at 6, Denman-street, but the following week "Uttus and the Three-button Mystery" will be screened on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, May 7, 8, 9, and 10, commencing each day at 2.30 p.m.

There have been a great number of enquiries for this film, and advance bookings are far in excess of anything previously recorded. The trade shows will probably give the Gaumont exclusive department a busy time.

This week "A Man for all That," a strong drama of a man's reformation, is being shown, and has already excited much favourable comment on the acting of Robert Warwick and Mollie King, and the terrific train smash which provides the sensation in the picture.

Triangle.

"A One in the World," the Triangle drama to be shown at the Triangle Trade show next Friday, is an absorbing drama of life in the great Canadian North-West. William S. Hart is seen as the Scotch "factor," or manager, of an outpost of the Hudson Bay Company. He is supported by Margery Wilson (the "Brown Eyes" of "Intolerance") as a fiery-tempered French-Canadian girl, and Robert McKim as the company's inspector, the villain of the piece. There is a thrilling fight with knives between Hart and an Indian in mid-stream, and the photographs of the struggle under the water are remarkably good.

The Triangle-Keystone to be shown on Friday is "Safety First Ambrose," a Western of the wildest type, with much rapid riding, sharp-shooting, and kiltful

horsemanship. The big thrill of the picture is Robert Kortman's dive of twenty-five feet into a swimming pool on the back of Jasper, the diving horse.

Fathé Films.

On Wednesday, May 2, at the West-End Cinema, at eleven o'clock, Messrs. Fathé Freres will screen to the trade a new powerful Gold Rooster play, entitled "The Man Who Failed," featuring Florence Reed, Fania Marinoff, John Milner, and Jessie Ralph. In conjunction with this film will be shown an AN-British production, entitled "Ye Woeing of Peggy." This is a delightful two-reel costume comedy, in which Miss Quessia Thomas, the popular young English screen artist, is featured.

Other Fathé features that will be warmly welcomed by managers are a fine Gold Rooster play, entitled "Kick In," a film adaptation of the dramatic success played at the Adelphi some two years ago, and "The Enchantress," which features that fine actor, Holbrook Binn, and Doris Kenyon. Also a one-reel topical, entitled "The Birth of an Aeroplane." This latter is a clever production of fine photographic quality.

At the invitation of the directors of Messrs. Fathé Freres, the entire staff spent a very enjoyable evening last week. Seats were reserved for a performance of "Intolerance" at Drury Lane, which was keenly enjoyed by the enthusiastic Patheists.

We have already referred to the picture scheme which the Ideal have been at work upon, based on the idea of a varied collection of pictures with fresh themes. We have now particulars of two more of these attractive subjects.

One bears the expressive title, "The Child of Nature." This picture tells the unbacked story of a little child who, when the village in which she lived was destroyed, ran away, terrified, to the neighbouring mountains. There she grew up, with no other companions than a couple of bears—a veritable "child of nature." Then suddenly the world bursts into this solitude—in the shape of a prospector and a number of companions—and there follow some delightful scenes between the girl and these strange beings. It all ends, of course, in a happy love match, but through the romance there also runs a vein of striking drama. Not the least important feature of the picture is that the "child of nature" is played by no less an actress than Miss Mae Marsh, who will be remembered.



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bered as the star in those two great pictures, "The Birth of a Nation" and "Intolerance."

Another item in the Ideal's picture scheme is represented by Dickens's famous story of Scrooge. It is called "Scrooge, the Skinfint," and tells, in a series of delightful scenes, how this churlish character, who loathed the very sight of happiness and lived for nothing but gold, was turned into an open-handed, kind, not to say jovial old soul. Scrooge's experiences in the process are occasionally eerie, but there is always an undercurrent of humour as well as pathos in the tale, which ends on a charming note. The picture is full of the most attractive scenery.

The trade show of "A Child of Nature" will take place at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Thursday, May 10, at 11 a.m., and that of "Scrooge, the Skinfint" on the following Thursday at the same time and place.

We regret to hear that another member of the Ideal's staff has been wounded at the front. This is Mr. Arthur Bernstein, who will be remembered by the Yorkshire trade as the manager of the Ideal's Leeds branch. Mr. Bernstein had been employed in a tank. The shell, which exploded near him, fortunately only inflicted comparatively slight injuries. The trade will wish him a complete restoration to health.

Fox Films.
The Fox Film Company are holding a trade show on Wednesday next, May 2, at the Shaftesbury Pavilion, at 11 a.m. The film is a fine subject, with the alluring title of "Melting Millions," and features that clever actor, George Walsh, who was so successful in the famous Fox production of "The Beast," and "The Mediator." A football match, a boxing match, and a thrilling hold-up of an American mail train are especially fine pictures.

Another feature of the trade show will be the exhibition of a Fox Comedy, the tenth of the series entitled "His Merry Mix Up." The number of Fox Comedy releases is growing steadily, and new stars are being introduced in these popular two-reelers, which are being filmed day and night at the Fox Studios in Los Angeles. These studios, by the way, have been recently enlarged, so that six comedies can be filmed at one time.

Phillips Films.
The Phillips Film Co. are in the near future issuing a series of two-reelers to meet the ever-growing demand for short films. Exhibitors should not omit an inspection of this series, which have already been booked extensively throughout the country.

To overcome the restricted poster display regulations difficulty the Phillips Film Co. have prepared a scheme of co-operation with managers in this important matter. They announce that any manager showing one of their films who will apply to them with particulars of his requirements will be supplied, without charge, with suitable articles, paragraphs, and advertisements referring to the subject, all ready to be handed to the local newspaper printer.

At the same time, any advice that the manager may require in advertising matters will be given free of charge, where Phillips films are concerned; and in the event of an opportunity for special publicity arising in his district, the full co-operation of the Phillips Film Co. is assured in the attempt to take full advantage of it.

Broadwest Film.

The Broadwest Film Co., which has a large number of successful films to its credit, including "The Woman Who Did," "The Ware Case," and "The House Opposite," will commence shortly the production of a film version of "Missing the Tide," the new serial now running in the "Evening News."

The story is arousing much interest, and, though touching lightly on the great events of the day, is not in any sense a war story, but rather centres round the crises in a woman's life arising out of the war. The production will be on a big scale, and in keeping with Broadwest thoroughness. They are arranging to have the incidents filmed on the spots referred to in the story. A first-class cast is being formed by Mr. Walter West, who will personally direct the production.

The Broadwest Company are publishing a record list of bookings on the productions of "The Ware Case" and "The House Opposite," which show that this enterprising All-British concern is meeting with its just reward. Their next big production, "The Ragged Messenger," is in active preparation.

Ashley Exclusives.

Messrs. Ashley Exclusive Films, Ltd., announce a trade show of unusual interest to the trade on Friday at 3 p.m. at the Alhambra. The subject, "America Awakes," is a five-reel production of exceptional merit, and is not only topical, but is absolutely a forecast—as the film was produced last autumn in America—of what has actually occurred. A clever story is interwoven with the theme, and no doubt a big gathering will assemble.

Kinetograph Limited.

It has come to the notice of Kinetograph Ltd. that on various occasions when a viewer has called to see their films, if the film happens to be not quite ready at that particular moment, they spread a report around that "Kinetograph has nothing this week." Consequently other viewers do not come in, with the result that the film is practically wasted.

Despite the difficulties that exist at the present time owing to shortage of staff, etc., Kinetograph Ltd. have consistently supported the open market, and have put out regularly one and sometimes two films per week.

L.I.F.T.

TRADE SHOW
AT WEST END CINEMA;
On WEDNESDAY, April 25, at 11 a.m. sharp.

— OF —
THE THIRD WITNESS (Davidson Film)

— AND —
NINETY DAYS (Polifilm Co. of Naples).

"Fast One at Rooney's."
It is good news for lovers of O. Henry's delightful stories to hear that they are being filmed. The first picture, "Fast One at Rooney's," has already been finished in America. O. Henry has recently become very popular with the English-reading public, and when the film adaptations of his works are released he will command an even greater following.

The "Fall In" Memorial Fund.
Mr. G. F. Sexton has generously offered to give a matinee at the West-End Cinema on Tuesday, May 8, the whole of the proceeds to be given to the "Fall In" Fund for endowing a cot in the Middlesex Hospital in memory of the "Die Hards"—officers and men who have fallen in the war. Mr. Sexton, who is working very enthusiastically for the fund, has handed in a cheque for £50 on account, so that there may be no question of failure, and any contributions may be forwarded to him.

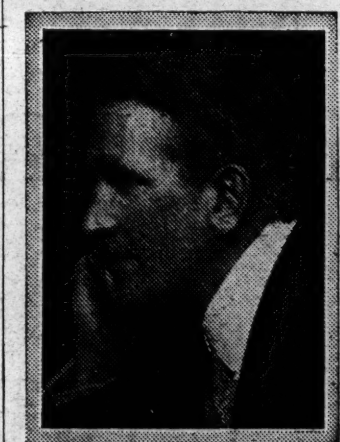


[Photo Bascano.]
MISS DOROTHY BELLEW.
Leslie Bradenell in the Waltham Production of "The Prodigate."

CINEMAS AND THE AMUSEMENT TAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."
Sir—I notice in the Parliamentary reports in the daily papers that that excellent friend of the "Picture" business, Mr. J. M. Hogre, M.P., asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer how much had been received from cinemas as a result of the Amusement Tax, and that Mr. Bonar Law replied that it was impossible to state separately the amount of revenue derived from this source. One is tempted to ask: Why not? The tax is a serious matter for our trade—some picture theatres it may be a matter of life and death. Are we really to suppose, then, that the Treasury are totally unable to form even an approximate estimate of the burdens which exhibitors are bearing in this matter? It seems a great pity, Sir, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer did not explain why it is impossible to make the suggested calculation, for in the absence of clear figures the chances of the "picture" business making out a clear case for consideration are liable to be impaired.—Yours faithfully,

S. GILBERT.
Ideal Film Renting Co., Ltd.
20, Piccadilly Mansions, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., April 23.



[Photo Gainsborough Studio.]
MR. BEN WEBSTER.
Dunstan Renshaw in "The Prodigate."

The West End Cinema Theatre was to have been honoured by the presence of H.R.H. Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll on Wednesday afternoon last, in support of a matinee given for The Heritage Craft Schools for Crippled Children and the Training of Wounded Soldiers. Owing to indisposition, H.R.H. was unable to be present to greet the 300 wounded Tommies who had been brought by motor buses at Mr. G. F. Sexton's expense.

A splendid programme was provided in the shape of leading artists and films. The theatre was packed, and Mr. G. F. Sexton will hand over the whole of the proceeds to The Heritage Craft Schools. Mr. G. F. Sexton's efforts for charities now total up to £4,650.

THE CINEMA COMMISSION.

FIFTEENTH SITTING.

Mr. J. Grant Ramsay (Principal of the Institute of Hygiene) gave evidence before the Cinema Commission on Monday. He said that the cinema had proved of great service at the Institute in illustrating lectures, and at demonstrations of first aid, sick nursing, and cooking. It was also utilised for showing medical films of germ life (greatly magnified), the working of the heart and stomach, and even operations; but these were exhibited only to medical audiences. Films were also shown, illustrating hygiene and sanitation, to men of the Royal Army Medical Corps. The development of the cinema, on educational lines, could hardly be said to have come up to anticipations, but this was not altogether surprising. Messrs. Pathé Frères and other makers had devoted much time and money to the production of scientific and educational films, but at a great loss. The reason was simple. School books would not be popular on book stalls, and before educational films could be in any demand, there must be facilities for showing them. Further development rested largely with the educational authorities.

A QUESTION OF HYGIENE.
He had visited a number of popular cinema theatres in London and the provinces, and while most of them were good buildings, well fitted, and conformed to the local regulations, yet he had not yet

found one that could possibly be classed as healthy or hygienic. The films generally shown, too, left much to be desired. The hygiene of the mind was deserving of much more consideration than it received. He had no practical evidence that the effect on the nerves and brain, through looking at pictures, was seriously detrimental to the adult. It was exhausting, especially if the films were long, and more rapidly exhausting if the films flickered and were old and bad, but the result largely depended on the condition of the person.

PICTURES IN THE LIGHT.
It would also be of great advantage to show the pictures in the light, and the obstacle to this might soon be overcome, as it had already been almost achieved. The shorter films—say, under a thousand feet—were to be preferred, and when the films ran into thousands of feet there should be more frequent and longer intervals. Other methods of entertaining the audience could be introduced to fill up these intervals, singing being preferable. "I believe," concluded Mr. Ramsay, "that the cinema has a great future if directed on right lines, and if installed in schools, Sunday schools, and even churches it should be made a most attractive and influential factor for improving the education and raising the moral standard of the people."

"THE BOY-GIRL."

A GIRL WHO LIVES THE LIFE OF A BOY ULTIMATELY REALISES THE JOYS OF WOMANHOOD.

Production Phillips
Star Violet Mercereau
Type Drama
Length Five Reels
The idea of a girl being brought up mainly as a boy, and in boy's attire, is somewhat fantastic, but provides good material for a film story. "Jack," otherwise Jacqueline Channing, is the idol of her father, a retired gentleman of the turf, by whom she is brought up as a boy. During her rambles she meets and falls in love with Bob Ridgeway, whose father's estate adjoins that of Channing. After her father's sudden death "Jack" lives with two maiden aunts, and enlivens her dull life there with many adventures as a "boy." Being sent to school, she runs away and becomes a stenographer in the employ of the Ridgeways. How she unearths a plot made against them by their unscrupulous cashier, and by her daring and resource brings wealth to the firm, and incidentally love to the son, Bob, makes a fascinating story.

Miss Violet Mercereau acts without any sense of self-consciousness, and a tribute must be paid to her skill as a horsewoman. Charles Mason as the "boy's" father, and Sidney Mason as the lover give very strong and clear-cut performances. The photography is up to the usual level of the Phillips films, which is saying a good deal; and the whole production was a decided success, earning the applause of a large audience at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Monday.

[See our Film Marking.]

"THE BREAKER."

A GIRL'S LOVE FOR AN INNOCENT MAN RESCUES HIM FROM THE TOLLS OF THE POLICE.

Production Essanay
Stars Nell Craig and Bryant Washburn
Type Drama
Length Five Acts
Distributors Film Booking Offices
John Widder makes a living by selling water-filters. Calling at a home in pursuit of his occupation, he is received by the inmates with great cordiality, and when asked to take charge of a suit-case for them he readily agrees. In the same lodging-house lives Alice Tredwell, who gains a precarious living by typing. Widder saves her from being ejected from her apartments by paying her rent, finding the money in the suit-case which he is minding, and which he afterwards discovers is full of counterfeit notes. Widder is about to be arrested for being in possession of the case, for which the police are offering a reward of £2,000, when Alice is able to prove his innocence, and the reward goes as an acceptable dowry to the young couple.

Bryant Washburn gives a fine interpretation of the chivalrous and kindly-souled John Widder, and Nell Craig is good as Alice Tredwell. The picture deals with the lives of everyday people of the type who form the majority of the audiences who patronise cinemas, and as such will appeal to a wide circle. The plot is concise and the photography clear.

"THE FATAL PROMISE."

A TALE OF TREACHERY AND TERROR, AND AN ALL-SACRIFICING LOVE.

Production Super Bluebird Photoplay
Stars Cleo Madison, Charles Cummings
Type Melodrama
Length Five Reels
Almost too intense in its tale of treachery and tragedy is this Super Bluebird production, shown at the West End Cinema yesterday. Mme. Lorelei, a famous operatic prima-donna, is playing with her company in a Mexican town where her fiancé, Marion Leslie, a clever artist, is engaged in restoring frescoes. Unluckily she attracts the attention of the tyrannical governor, who declares his passion brusquely, only to find that Leslie stands in his way. Meantime, Rance Clifford, a young business man, has incurred the hatred of the governor, and is imprisoned. Leslie, helped by Clifford's sister, assists him to escape, thus arousing the jealousy of the Lorelei. Terrible scenes follow, when Leslie is tortured by the governor's orders, to obtain the whereabouts of the runaway. His life is threatened, and Lorelei, hoping to save him, consents to give herself to the governor. The climax comes with the murder of the tyrant by the Lorelei, and the death of her lover.

The acting is superb throughout, but the scene where Cleo Madison, as the singer, murders the Governor is a magnificent piece of acting. The famous film actress has never been seen to greater advantage.

[See our Film Marking.]

"MAX LINDER GOES TO AMERICA."

INVALIDED OUT OF THE FRENCH ARMY, MAX LINDER RETURNS TO THE SCENE.

Production Essanay
Star Max Linder
Type Comedy
Length Two Acts
Distributors Film Booking Offices
Yesterday the famous eccentric comedian named above made his first appearance in an Essanay production before an invited audience at the New Gallery Cinema, the scenario chosen being the voyage of the liner taking Max to America. Max becomes a great favourite with the ladies, with Doris Smith in particular. He gets into the good graces of her papa by accompanying him on the piano during his vocal gymnastics. The humorous situations follow one another fast until the alarm is given that the liner is torpedoed; there is a rush for the boats, all are in save Max, whose lifebelt is purloined by old man Smith; the alarm proves false, and when the passengers return Max is discovered playing the piano, and is worshipped by the girls as a hero.

The comedy gives fine scope for the display of the various eccentricities and resourceful fun of Max Linder, his business with the piano on a choppy sea, and his facial play, expressing the various degrees of seasickness, being fine examples of the gift of comedy which this artist possesses.

POPULAR FOX FILM REPRESENTATIVE.

Mr. Joseph E. Darling, the well-known and popular film representative of the Fox forces, arrived in London a few days back. He sailed for England on the first American liner to leave New York after war was declared. Such a voyage was fraught with danger, even though the ship was armed with naval guns in charge of expert U.S. naval gunners; but Mr. Darling is not the sort of man to let even war conditions upset his equilibrium. Since Mr. Darling left England last August he has travelled over 30,000 miles on behalf of Mr. Fox and his great film enterprises. Amongst other countries he visited were Spain, Brazil, Argentina, and many of the South American Republics. He opened new offices for the distribution and handling of Fox films in Buenos Aires, San Paulo, and Rio de Janeiro. He has brought with him a film that is considered to be the finest Fox effort, in production, up to date. "A Tale of Two Cities" is the subject, and the production cost over thirty thousand pounds, and was made especially for the British market. William Farnham is featured in this super-production, in the character of Sidney Carton.

Speaking of Mr. Ernest Reed, the managing director of the Fox Film Co., Ltd., Mr. Darling said: "I am happy to tell you that Mr. Reed has renewed his contract with the Fox Film Co., and will continue for the future, as he had done since the inauguration of the firm, controlling the interests of the organisation in the United Kingdom. Mr. Reed's visit to our New York offices last year proved of great value to us through his very valuable suggestions regarding our methods pertaining to the British industry."

Asked how the declaration of war would affect the film business in the United States, and incidentally in this country, Mr. Darling replied: "The majority of the producing companies are going ahead with plans formed at the close of last season, though a number are waiting to ascertain to what extent the financial developments of the country are drawn into sympathy with events abroad. Some large productions have already been postponed, but these are but temporary. I should infer from close observation that better times are coming for film men, and the days of palming off old junk and second-hand films—a disgrace to the industry—has had its day. The film buyers, for instance, of the South American Republics, as well as those of India, China, and Japan, are eagerly waiting for new high-class films, and paying from fivepence to tenpence per foot, and cash guarantees are forthcoming that films will not be duped or exploited in countries other than those specified by the contract." Mr. Darling further informed the writer that he has just added five new links to the chain of countries, by which Fox films now encircle the globe. The new exchanges are in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, and Portugal.

"From Pacific to Atlantic." Captain Besley's famous film production, is proving very popular at the Philharmonic Hall. Numbers of seats have been reserved by Captain Besley for wounded soldiers, and hospitals requiring seats should communicate with the manager, Philharmonic Hall.

BRITISH EMPIRE FILM BOUGHT ENSURE FORTUNES.

Write to 7, Great Newport Street, London, England, W.,
For details of Latest Productions, which include many well-known Theatrical Successes.

COMING FILM TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

The Manxman, New Gallery Cinema, 10.45, April 25.
The Scarlet Letter and Hearts and Saddles (Fox), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., April 25.
Hello, Who's Your Lady Friend? (Holland), 11.0 and 3.0, April 25, 26, 27.
The Third Witness (London Independent), West End Cinema, 11 a.m., April 25.
All the World's a Stage (Hagen and Double), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., April 25.
The Sign of the Poppy (New Bio.), West End Cinema, 11.30 p.m., April 25.
America Awakes (Ashley), Alhambra, 3 p.m., April 27.
A Child of Nature (Ideal), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., April 27.
Melting Millions and His Merry Mix Up (Fox), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., May 2.
The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., May 3.
A Child of Nature (Ideal), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., May 10.
Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., May 17.

BELFAST.

The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), Panopticon, Belfast, 11 a.m., June 5.
A Child of Nature (Ideal), Panopticon, 11 a.m., June 12.
Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Panopticon, 11 a.m., June 19.

BIRMINGHAM.

The Missing Bank Notes and Her Circus Knight (Triangle), 144-5, Suffolk-street, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., April 27; 3.30 and 6.30 p.m., April 29.
Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 11 a.m., April 27.
It is for England (Phillips and Carroll), Scala, Smallbrook-street, 11 a.m., May 3.

CARDIFF.

The White Raven (Ruffels), Pavilion, 11.30 a.m., April 25.
Jealousy (Fox), Cardiff Cinema, 92, Queen's-street, 11 a.m., May 1.
The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), at our new offices at 8, Pembroke-terrace, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., May 25.

A Child of Nature (Ideal), at our new offices at 8, Pembroke-terrace, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., June 8.

DUBLIN.

The World—and a Woman and The Vagabond Prince (Ideal), Carlton Cinema, 11 a.m., June 6.
A Child of Nature (Ideal), Carlton Cinema, 11 a.m., June 13.
Scrooge—the Skinfint (Ideal), Carlton Cinema, 11 a.m., June 20.

GLASGOW.

Bohemia and Her Father's Station (Fox), Cinema House, 11 a.m., April 25.
Romance and Mystery (Pathé), Oranston's, Renfield-street, 11 a.m., April 25.
The Heart of a Princess (Hagen and Double), Scala, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., April 25.

World Films (Gaumont), Gaumont's, Mitchell-street, 11 a.m., April 26.
All the World's a Stage (Hagen and Double), Picture Salon, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., April 27.

The Wolf Woman and A Sister of Sin (Triangle), 182, Trongate, 3 p.m., April 27.
The Scarlet Letter and Hearts and Saddles (Fox), Cinema House, 11 a.m., April 30.

Chase Me, Charlie (Chaplin Revue), Prince of Graustark (Film Booking Office), Salon, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., May 1.
Gloriana (R. C. Buchanan), La Scala, Sauchiehall-street, 11 a.m., May 2.

The World—and a Woman and The

FILM MARKINGS.

TRUTH IS STRANGER THAN FICTION.
Reference No. 6-10.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Length.	Marks.
June 11	The Golden Supper	D.W. Griffiths	Drama	1018	6
June 11	The Iceman and the Artist	Ham	Comedy	1010	6
June 11	The Menace	Dare-Devil	Detective	1010	7
June 11	Torquay and Cockington	Larkin	Drama	270	6
June 11	Good Morning, Nurse	Highways	Interest	610	6
June 11	Summer Boarders	Victor	Comedy	808	6
June 11	Midnight	L-Ko	Farce	808	6
June 14	The Forgotten Train Order	Imp	Drama	866	6
June 14	The Hot Foot Romance	Hazards of Helen	Drama	987	6
June 14	Ireland and its Surroundings	A.B.	Comedy	770	6
June 14	A Hasty Hazing	Highways	Interest	740	6
June 14	It Makes a Difference	Nestor	Comedy	1005	6
June 14	Out for the Dough	Reel	Drama	1015	7
June 14	Animal World	Joker	Comedy	1025	6
June 14	Max Goes Ski-ing	Kinet	Interest	285	6
July 2	Lake's Patients Provider	Pathé	Comedy	—	6
July 9	Max Forester	Pathé	Comedy	—	6
July 16	Max Bags a Bloomer	Pathé	Comedy	—	6
July 23	Wiffo's Lost Legacy	Pathé	Comedy	—	6
July 30	Max's Elopement	Pathé	Comedy	—	6
Not known	The Fatal Promise	Ashley's	Bluebird	5 reels	6
Not known	The Boy-Girl Bluebird	Phillips	—	—	6

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Length.	Marks.
May 21	The Rink	C. Chaplin	Comedy	2 reels	6
June 11	A Troublesome Trip	Picure	Comedy	1 reel	6
June 11	The Dream House	Picure	Comedy	1 reel	7
June 11	Counterfeit Vacation	Picure	Comedy	1 reel	7
June 11	Will a Woman Tell?	Picure	Comedy	1 reel	7
August 13	The Winning of Sally Temple	Lasky	Drama	4 reels	7
August 13	A Man for All That	Gaumont	Drama	5 reels	8
Not known	In Bohemia	Fox	Drama	5 reels	8
Not known	Her Father's Station	Fox	Comedy	2 reels	7
Not known	The Crucial Test	Gaumont	Drama	5 reels	7
Not known	Who's Your Lady Friend?	Globe	Comedy	2 reels	7
Not known	The Silver Orchids	New Bio.	Drama	5 reels	8
Not known	The Silver Wolf: Tale of the Boy Scouts	African	Interest	2 reels	7
Not known	The Grip of Jealousy	General	Drama	5 reels	7
Not known	The Girl Philippa	Vitagraph	Drama	5 reels	7
Not known	Her Circus Knight	Triangle	Comedy	2 reels	8
Not known	The Missing Bank Notes	Triangle	Drama	5 reels	9

Harma and Co.
Messrs. Harma and Co. will hold their trade show at the West End Cinema on May 9, at 11.30, when they will screen a magnificent production entitled "Home Sweet Home."

In Aid of Highgate War Office Supply.
A special cinema matinee in aid of the funds of the Highgate War Hospital Supply Depot was given last week at the Electric Palace, Highgate Hill. The Grand Duke Michael and Countess Torby were present, and were received by the Mayor of Hornsey. "Her Greatest Performance" was the feature of the performance, in which Miss Ellen Terry plays the leading rôle. Amongst the crowded audience was the popular actress herself, who received an ovation.

ARTISTIC SLIDES

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SAMUELSON'S

NEXT

LITTLE WOMEN

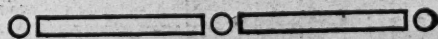
By LOUISA M. ALCOTT.

Featuring

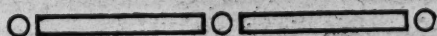
MARY LINCOLN, RUBY MILLER,
MURIEL MYERS and DAISY BURRELL
as MEG, JOE, BETH and AMY

AND

MILTON ROSMER as LAURI LAWRENCE



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WORTON HALL, ISLEWORTH



PROVINCIAL NEWS.

(Continued from p. 10.)

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. The Northern Theatre Co., Ltd., M. J. M. Wm. Robinson, G. M. M. J. Culling, J. W. Turner's Opera Company provides their usual first-rate attraction here. Among the artists appearing are Ethel Dennis, Evelyn Ray, Gladys Connor, Eva Ball, Edith Arthur, Cynthia Gibbs, Sylvia Clifford, and Tom Griffiths.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. The Northern Theatre Co., Ltd., M. J. M. Wm. Robinson, G. M. M. J. Culling, J. W. Turner's Opera Company are appearing here in the drama "The Vicar's Son," in which Mr. Longden successfully portrays the ex-convict in the vicar. On Friday night "East Lynne" is being substituted.

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A CLEVER CALIFORNIAN ARTISTE.

MISS ROSE LEE IVY.

It is a long time since we welcomed to these shores an artiste displaying the versatility of Miss Rose Lee Ivy, who made her debut in this country at the Victoria Palace last week. Her opening number was a sentimental ballad, rendered in a voice of wonderful range and sweetness, for which she received a great ovation, in response to which Miss Ivy gave, in a pleasing and breezy manner, a comedy number. This was followed by an even broader comedy song, in which Miss Ivy portrayed a drunken character—albeit without the aid of any change of costume. Her next song was a burlesque describing the performance of a girl who would sing and couldn't, her concluding number being a sentimental ballad entitled "When It Strikes Home." In her 15 to 20 minutes' performance, therefore, the gifted artiste gave a ballad in a voice which would have done credit to an operatic singer, humorous and descriptive songs, and finished with a finely rendered contralto song.



MISS ROSE LEE IVY.

In a brief interview with our representative Miss Ivy said she had just finished a very successful tour in Africa. Previous to that she was touring Australia and New Zealand, and before that in America, with the happiest of results. Miss Ivy is a keen business woman, and informed us that she was the first woman in the United States to tour the halls with pictures, her first being "Dante's Inferno," with which she lectured and sang, and created quite a sensation by no means an easy task in the land of novelties.

During the voyage from Africa to England the vessel she was on was chased by submarines for two days, and Miss Ivy was afraid she was never going to realise one of her dearest wishes—to see and meet English people. Judging by the enthusiasm of her reception at the Victoria Palace, it will, we think, be a long time before Miss Ivy is allowed to leave our shores.

After next week this gifted and versatile artiste will be playing at the Oxford, and then starts on an important tour.

Pathe's Gazette complete a well-arranged programme.

PALACE.—R. M. Mr. James Richardson—Miss Kitty Brewster presents "Who's Who," a sporting comedy extravaganza. The principal cast are Gordon Ray, Doris Benson, Lily Vernon, the Five Brothers, Ethel Wynne, Harry Bent, Chas. Eaton, and Fred E. Taylor.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. M. Mr. Stanley Rogers, A. M. Mr. Horace Lee, Mr. William De Lacey's company in "Down on the Farm."

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(Kitty Mitchell) and Mr. Harry Bernard (Jack Mayne).

EMPIRE.—P. M. Mr. Moss Empires, Ltd., A. M. Mr. J. Winfield. "Three Cheers" is as full of good things as it is possible to get into an entertainment, and crowded with variety, and the artists are splendidly rendered by Mr. Harry Day's company. The artists included David Bindley, Peggy Yeoman, Kitty Curtis, Harry Morrissey, Allick Lander, Gerald Williams, Jimmy Lee, Kathleen O'Hanlon, Mona, Wania, the Royal Killy Laases, the Twelve Empire Dancers, and a platoon of discharged soldiers.

HIPPOTRONE.—M. D. Mr. Fred Williams, R. M. Mr. Harry Lyons, Asst. M. M. H. Minshull Harcourt. The artistically weird and skilful illusions of the Great Raymond are a great attraction here, and this clever artiste receives an enthusiastic welcome on his return visit. Leo Hardy, a smartly combined musical ability with capital humour, the vocal comedietta of Walter Lawley and Sadie East makes interesting and enjoyable entertainment; Gillie evokes hearty laughter in his ventriloquist sketches; and a delectable musical performance is submitted by the Jovers. Harris Combie completes a bill of all-round excellence.

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GRAND.—P. The Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd., G. M. Mr. E. Dottridge, A. M. Mr. H. Kilroy. Mr. Alfred Butt presents "Peg o' My Heart." Miss Ann Copping gives a delightful portrayal of the title character. Miss Beatrice Keady, a smartly combined musical ability with capital humour, the vocal comedietta of Walter Lawley and Sadie East makes interesting and enjoyable entertainment; Gillie evokes hearty laughter in his ventriloquist sketches; and a delectable musical performance is submitted by the Jovers. Harris Combie completes a bill of all-round excellence.

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READING.

COUNTY THEATRE.—P. & M. Mr. Milton Bode and Mr. Edward Compton. The George Edwards' principal London company in "Betty."

PALACE.—P. The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd., M. D. Mr. Wm. Robinson, G. M. M. J. Culling, J. W. Turner's Opera Company are appearing here in the drama "The Vicar's Son," in which Mr. Longden successfully portrays the ex-convict in the vicar. On Friday night "East Lynne" is being substituted.

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SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P. M. Mr. Arthur Wood, Tom Galt and Leon M. Lion present the farcical comedy, "East Gets a Month." A strong cast includes Mr. V. Carter Slaughter as Felix Delany, and Miss Hazel Jones as Ninette Monday.

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Head Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, W.C.

These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of artists without prejudice.

No deputes will be accepted at rehearsals. Any artists absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1917.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for "Zig-Zag."

EMPIRE, FINCHURCH PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Four Royal Scots, Tom E. Finglass, Chas. Kasmir, Martini T. Co.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Naughton and God, Sisters Reave, Cooper and Lait.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Geo. Newburn, Herbert Cave, Hayman and Franklin.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Picture Entertainment.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 11.30 a.m. for: Belle and Austin.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Rich Hayes, Shawlens, Duncan's Collier, & Regular Business Man, Vera Wootton.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Wal Langtry, Belle Davis and Co., Evelyn Taylor.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Dainty Doris, Bart and Bart, Les Videos, The Royal Merry Four.

PAOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Picture Entertainment.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for: Mark and Note, Nellie Sylvestre, James Beaton.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Dublin, Dainton Shaw Troupe, Reg Bolton.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Wilfred Bernard, Gus Garrick, Carol Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Jack Silvano, Wilfred Ward, Lawrence Wright Ensemble.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Haves and Dore, Bobbie Thornton, J. H. Scotland.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Jenny Costello, D. Elroy, Kitty Jay.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for: Francisco, Tom Clark, Nixon Grey.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose photographs. Artists are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be approved by Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artists or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (a) West End, (b) Suburban, (c) Large, and (d) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artists are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Artists desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinées are held every Wednesday at the Empire Theatre, South Shields, at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artists are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, books, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (a) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (b) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.

(2) Artists must attend rehearsals, no deputes being accepted.

(3) Press Matter and Photos. Star Artists, Feature, and Specialty Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artists and Agents. When an Artist or Act having previously played at the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artist that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the Managing Director or Business Manager, and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

Mr. FRANK ALLEN, Managing Director.

Mr. A. P. DE COUVILLE, Assistant to Managing Director and Booking.

Mr. ERNEST WIGGTON, Booking Manager for the Tour.

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THE VERSATILE COMEDienne.

MISS LILLIE LANGTRY.

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Everybody's Favourite.

This week, OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH.

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Phone, 2,115 Brixton.

New Production, "What a Change," by Fred Home. Special Scenery and Effects, by Francis H. Bell.

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This week, EUSTON and PAVILION.

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Authors please note. Top Price For Comedy Songs, Patter, &c. No War Stuff.

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MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR.

This week, PALACE, SOUTHAMPTON.

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COOPER MITCHELL,

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Song and Story at the Piano.

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Phone, Chiswick 1112, and Ashton's Royal Agency.

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In his Humour and Music at the Piano.

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3 LINES, 1s. 13 INSERTIONS, 12s.

ADDITIONAL LINES, 6d. EACH.

ATLAS - VULCAN TROUPE.

April 23, Grand T., Radcliffe, Lancs.

April 30, Hip., Aldershot. Require May 14 and June 4.

SIX GREENLEES.

Always a hit. "On a Holiday."

April 23, Pal., Royston, Yorks.

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Male Voice; Concerts, Masonic Banquets, Dinners, &c. Edward Hamilton, "Redcot," Forster-rd., Beckenham.

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Humorous Songs and Stories.

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This Week, COLLINS'S.

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PRINCIPAL COMEDIAN

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SOME GIRLS' REVUE.

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Chairman & Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.

Secretary and Chief Accountant, W. S. GORDON MICHIE.

ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations - A. D. DAVIS.

Dates - LLEWELLYN JOHNS.

Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR APRIL 30, 1917.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for: Mary Anderson and Co. in "Pygmalion and Galatea," Sam Barton, Mary Leighton, Lovie Elliott, Bioscope.

LONDON OPERA HOUSE, KINGSWAY.

Cinema Season.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for: "Nights of Gladius," "The Major's Reflection," Bioscope.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for: Mooney and Holbein, Hymack, Syd Sydney, Marcelle Molray, Montes and Welma, Jazon and Montgomery's Revue, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for: The Keros, The Mongers, Thorpe and Coe, Lola Patey, De Busse, Nelson Jackson, Poppy Ginnert, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for: Roly La Rocca, R. G. Knowles, Mabel Mann, May Sherrard, Trumpet-Major Wix, Lockhart's Elephants, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for: "The Bing Boys are Here."

CHATHAM EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for: Four Swifts, Lennie Hill, Fyne and Hurley, Irene Pearce, Bioscope.

And in association with the above -

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.

"The Bing Girls are There."

NOTE - Artists engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE - All sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include -

FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Fulham Hippodrome and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards. - Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED - 14 different parts for English Orchestration and 17 for Foreign Orchestration. London Coliseum, London Opera House, and Manchester Hippodrome require 20 parts, including 3 first violins, extra cello and bass, and extra part for harp if not scored for.

STAGE DEPARTMENT - Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artists three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER - Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artists.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION. - No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices.

The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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SUTCLIFFE FAMILY

MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30.

Box Office 10 to 10.

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DE MAREST
GARADINI
7 NOBODIES
HECTOR & LOLLETTA

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME

6.30 and 9.

Tel. LEE GREEN 26.

"HIP! HIP!!
HOORAY!!!"

featuring
EDGAR COOKE
NORA DWYER
JOSEPH VICTOR
SYD LE FRE

THE 3 PRODIGES
CISSIE LUPINO
BETANCOURT
CLAUDE LESTER

HAMMERSMITH PALACE

6.30 and 9.

Tel. HAMMERSMITH 106.

CLARICE MAYNE
& "THAT"
DAISY JAMES
T. E. DUNVILLE
GOODFELLOW
& GREGSON
TOM E. HUGHES
BURR & HOPE
BILLY HOWARD
and
KITTIE FRANCIS
& CO.

CAMBERWELL PALACE

6.30 and 9.

Tel. HOP 1095.

BILLY MERSON
BETH TATE
JOE ELVIN & CO.
PASQUALIS
WESTBROOKS
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ROSE CAMBRY
and
LEE EPHRAIM presents
AN ORIGINAL COMEDY,
"THE MEANEST MAN
ON EARTH."

GRAND PALACE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION

6.30 and 9.

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ELLA SHIELDS
DAISY JAMES
JULIEN HENRY & Co
DE MAREST
BETH TATE
LILIAN BYRNE
CLEF QUARTETTE
and
MISS TITTEL-BRUNE
& CO. in
"BRACELETS,"
by SEWELL COLLINS.

OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH

6.30 and 9.

Tel. LONDON WALL 1628.

"HIGH
EXPLOSIVES,"
featuring
ROBERT REILLY
HARRY MAXAM
and
KITTY EMSON

CHAS. COHAN
LUCILLE BENSTEAD
MART & PEP

ILFORD HIPPODROME

6.30 and 8.50.

Tel. ILFORD 716.

EVIE GREENE
McNAUGHTONS
NELLIE WALLACE
MORNY CASH
CARLTON
NORA DELANY
CLO D'ARTE
HARRY MOORE

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME

6.30 and 8.50.

Tel. WOOLWICH 69.

"SPECIAL
MIXTURES,"
featuring
KITTY COLYER
and
MIKE JOHNSON
TOM E. HOOD
ZETTA MOR
PHIL RALLIS TRIO
MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30

CROYDON EMPIRE

6.30 and 8.50.

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MARIE LLOYD
VERSATILE FOUR
WILSON HALLETT
GREAT WIELAND
ADAM TOMLINSON
LILY LANGTRY
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NINE DAINTY DOTS

ISLINGTON EMPIRE

6.30 and 9.

Tel. NORTH 571.

WALTER HOWARD
presents
"THE
STORY
OF THE
ROSARY."

POPLAR HIPPODROME

6.30 and 9.

Tel. EAST 64.

"WHAT'S HE
DOING,"
featuring
FRED KITCHEN
NELLIE WALLACE
COLLEY & SCOTT
PHIL PARSONS
MINNIE MUIR

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME

6.30 and 9.

Tel. WILLESDEN 49.

"ODDS
ON,"
featuring
JACK SHIRES
EVELYN GORDON
BAY RUSSELL
HYDE & CODY TRIO
and
GWEN CLIFFORD
FLORENCE
YAYMEN
HENRY ZILL
CELESTE

BALHAM HIPPODROME

6.30 and 9.

Tel. STREATHAM 1708.

LEW LAKE & CO.
in
"LOVE LETTERS."
DOLLY MEWSE
and
HARRY SINGER
PHYLLIS VENNOR
ALEC KENNEDY
ARMSTRONG &
HAWORTH
JAAP VAN LAREN
ELEANOR WILSON
CARRIE LAURIE'S
JUVENILES

PUTNEY HIPPODROME

6.30 and 9.

Tel. PUTNEY 2002.

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MITCHELL
FARR & FARLAND
GOODFELLOW
& GREGSON
S. W. WYNDHAM
PYNKIE WHYTE
CONNIE HOWARD
KATIE KEITH
and
PHYLLIS DAILLEY
& CO. in
"LONG 'LIZ."

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME

6.30 and 9.

Tel. HOP 1134.

McNAUGHTONS
NORA DELANY
MORNY CASH
CARLTON
AIMEE ROBERTS
BARTLE
QUARTETTE
PHIL PARSONS
FOLLY BASK

RICHMOND HIPPODROME

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and Miss
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as Mrs. GREGORY
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Presents
"THE
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